

# THE TRIENÆUM

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FOURPENCE  
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**EVENING COURSE ON ANATOMY and SURGERY.** King's College, London. By JOHN WOOD, Esq., F.R.S., Lecturer in Anatomy. In this Class it is intended to apply the plan of direct or tutorial teaching to the above subjects, by means of demonstrations from dissections, preparations, drawings, and model specimens, with alternate examinations thereupon. The Course will commence on MONDAY, December 3.—For full particulars apply to J. W. CUMMINGS, Esq., King's College, London. R. W. JELF, D.D., Principal.

**TRINITY COLLEGE, DUBLIN.**—The BOARD of TRINITY COLLEGE will proceed to ELECT a PROFESSOR of ARABIC on the 31st of DECEMBER NEXT. Candidates are requested to send their applications and testimonials on or before that day, to the Registrar, from whom also further particulars may be learned. By order of the Board, H. LLOYD, Registrar.

**PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY.**—The NEXT MEETING of this SOCIETY will take place on THURSDAY, December 6; when Mr. ARCHER will explain his Process of removing the Colloid Film from the Glass Plate.—The Chair will be taken at 8 o'clock precisely.

**ARUNDEL SOCIETY.—CRYSTAL PALACE.**—An entire Series of 170 Fac-similes of Ivory Carvings (from the 2nd to the 18th century) in three classes may be seen at this office, and in the Collection of the Society's Artistic Publications and Property, exhibited in the newly-arranged Court, under the Crystal Palace. Illustrated Guide to the Court, 6d. Catalogue of Ivories, (by post) 1s. 9d. Old Bond-street. JOHN NORTON, Secretary.

**ARCHITECTURAL EXHIBITION.**—All WORKS for EXHIBITION must be DELIVERED at the GALLERIES on the 3rd or 4th of DECEMBER. At 8 o'clock, on the TUESDAY EVENING, beginning with the 5th January, LECTURES will be delivered at the Galleries, and the Committees are able to announce the following:—Jan. 8.—Jas. Ferguson, Esq., F.R.S., Honorary Secretary to the Architectural Exhibition.—On the Ancient Architecture of Assyria.

11.—George Scharf, Jun., Esq.—On Early Christian Art as illustrated in the Paintings.  
12.—The Rev. J. L. Petit.—Utilitarianism in Architecture.  
13.—Robert W. Billings, Esq.—On the Ancient Architecture of Scotland.  
Feb. 12.—Thomas Allon, Esq.—On the Influence of Light and Shadow upon Architectural Composition.

13.—Will be set apart for publishing the awards of the Jury appointed by the Royal Institute of British Architects, and for some remarks upon the articles exhibited in the department for materials.  
Season Ticket-holders will be free to the Lectures as well as to the Exhibition, and the subscribers, who will have in addition the privilege of introducing a friend to the Lectures. New Subscribers should send in their names in good time, in order that they may be printed in the first edition of the Catalogue. All information will be instantly given on application to JAS. FERGUSON, F.R.S., Lecturer-in-Charge, Crystal Palace, Jan. 8, 1856, Old Bond-street.

**LONDON INSTITUTION, FINSBURY.**

COURSE, NOVEMBER 1855.  
"SWINEY LECTURES ON GEOLOGY, IN CONNECTION with the BRITISH MUSEUM."  
A COURSE of TWELVE LECTURES on PALÆONTOLOGY, or the NATURAL HISTORY of ANIMALS, will be given at this Institution by ROBERT E. GRANT, Esq., M.D., F.R.S., London and Edinburgh, F.G.S., F.L.S., Professor of Comparative Anatomy and Zoology in University College, London; to be commenced on THURSDAY EVENING, December 1st, at Seven o'clock, and to be continued on succeeding Thursdays, at the same hour. This Course will be open to all Graduates of the University of London, and to all Members of the Royal College of Physicians, London. Gentlemen of either of those Societies, who may be desirous of attending it, are requested to leave their Cards at the Institution, in order that they may be counter-signed. Parties not of those Societies, and not otherwise entitled to attend the several Courses of Lectures at the Institution, will be admitted (in this Course only) by Ticket, to be obtained of the Lecturer, at the Institution, on the payment of One Guinea. By order, WILLIAM TITE, Hon. Sec.

**MANCHESTER MECHANICS' INSTITUTION.—EXHIBITION, 1855.**

The Directors of the Manchester Mechanics' Institution propose to inaugurate the New Building with an Exhibition illustrative of the Fine Arts, Antiquities, Scientific Inventions, Raw Materials, Industrial Products, Machinery at Rest and in Motion, and comprising Selections from Mechanical Employment in actual operation.

The Floor space in the Building applicable to the purposes of the Exhibition exceeds 10,000 square feet, with the additional accommodation afforded by the walls for the display of Paintings, Engravings, &c. With this space at their disposal, and with the experience the Directors possess of the successful working of similar Exhibitions in this Institution, they confidently hope to collect the materials and arrange an Exhibition which will sustain the reputation of the Institution, and be not only an object of general attraction, but an important educational instrument throughout the densely populated district of which Manchester is the centre.

To aid them in this undertaking, the Directors earnestly solicit the loan of objects suitable for exhibition, and also the valuable assistance which may be rendered by suggestions and friendly co-operation.

The carriage to and from Manchester of articles selected for exhibition will be paid by the Directors; an insurance will be effected on the building and its contents; and care will be taken to return uninjured the property of contributors.  
The New Building is now rapidly approaching completion, and it is proposed to open the Exhibition in the Autumn of 1856. Those gentlemen who are willing to assist the Board by the loan of objects, &c. &c. are respectfully requested to communicate as early as possible with the President of the Institution, Oliver Heywood, Esq., or with the Secretary.

By order of the Board, E. HUTCHINGS, Secretary.

17, Cooper-street, Manchester, November, 1855.

**CHEMICAL LABORATORY,** for the prosecution of Chemical Research and Analysis connected with Commerce and the Arts, and for the General or Practical Study of Chemical Science.

Under the Direction of Mr. R. H. PAUL, (Late Principal Assistant in Mr. Paul's Chemical and Assay Laboratories at University College).

The Laboratory will be open from the 4th of JANUARY, 1856, to Students who may enter to the following Classes:—

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PRACTICAL CLASS, Daily, in the Laboratory, from 10 till 4.

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To commence on the 1st of FEBRUARY, and be continued daily in the Laboratory from 10 to 5, until the 30th of April. This Class is intended to afford an opportunity of acquiring a Practical Knowledge either of General Analysis, or of those methods which are especially connected with technical operations and manufactures.

\*.\* In each of these classes all the necessary apparatus and chemicals will be provided.

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Laboratory, 1, Torrington-street, Russell-square.

**MRS. CHATTERLEY'S SHAKESPEARIAN READINGS.**—Mrs. CHATTERLEY will proceed to the Western Counties in the present Month, and will deliver DRAMATIC READINGS at Oxford on the 18th, and subsequently at Salisbury, and at other places for the West to be addressed to 5, Brompton-grove, London.

**THE GOVERNESSES' INSTITUTION, 34, Schoham-square.**—Mrs. WAGHORN, who has resided many years abroad, respectfully invites the attention of the Nobility, Gentry, and Principals of Schools to her Register of English and Foreign GOVERNESSES, TEACHERS, COMPANIONS, TUTORSES, and PRECEPTORS. School Property transferred, and Pupils introduced in England, France, and Germany. No charge to Principals.

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JOHN MURRAY, Albemarle-street.



LONDON, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1, 1855.

## REVIEWS

*Little Dorrit.* By Charles Dickens. With Illustrations by H. K. Browne. No. I. Bradbury & Evans.

FRESHNESS of scene is in itself a charm:—in novels, as in life. England is, of course, the finest country in the world; the best place in summer and the only place in winter: and yet, unreasonable creatures that we are, we sometimes sigh for the vineyards of France and the mimosa groves of Italy. In fiction, too, we confess to a little love of change. We sometimes doubt—such is the infirmity of nature—whether Fleet Street is quite enough for the heart and the imagination, in spite of Dr. Johnson and the wits of Grub Street. Sometimes we want a little sun. Sometimes we ask a little warmth. At times, even, for the fancy is various, we feel a longing for orange flowers, for olive gardens, for old basilicas, for marble houses, for swarthy faces, black beards and flashing eyes. Why should we not be gratified? We love our homes, we are proud of our country, we respect our institutions. We are willing enough to make these the chief subjects of our thought, as they are of our life,—to see them largely represented in our literature, and especially in our imaginative literature; but we may, perhaps, claim now and then—without any serious impeachment of our patriotism—as a relaxation, to breathe a purer air, to lie about in a warmer sun, and to amuse an hour or two with a blither and more picturesque people.

No man has been more true to English subjects than the Author of 'Little Dorrit.' The Constable of fiction, he has heretofore spent the resources of his genius—his faculty of observation, his knowledge of character, his power of painting, his art, his tenderness, his jovial humour—on the representation of home scenes and home life. What den of crime—what lurking-place of wretchedness—what abode of patient, uncomplaining toil—what sunny retreat of kind, homely nature—what fantastic dwelling-place of pride, eccentricity, pretence, and whimsicality—has he not entered for our amusement, our instruction, our delight? In the broad gallery of humorous characters set before us by Mr. Dickens, from Sam Weller down to Inspector Bucket—from Mrs. Nickleby, of immortal memory, down to that shocking 'Guster'—is there one the English reader would be glad to spare? We, for ourselves, will answer—No! Yet we are not sorry for once to meet our famous painter of national oddities, national manners, and national virtues, on a foreign soil. Mr. Dickens, we know, will not take us to the alleys of Drury Lane without good reasons of his own—reasons which we shall probably approve of ere his sermon be finished;—nevertheless, we are well content to find ourselves in his company, at the opening of 'Little Dorrit,' not in a hovel in Field Lane or in a court of Westminster, but on the shores of the Mediterranean, with the fierce sun of Marseilles overhead, the blue swell of the sea beyond the harbour, and the air laden—to the fancy at least—with the perfumes of Italy. Doubtless there are sermons in misery as there are sermons in stones. When Mr. Dickens gets us, with our hearty good-will, into such dismal places as "Tom all-Alone's" and Russell Court, he will shake our nerves with terror, and stir our breasts with generous emotions. But for the present, we infer—at least, let us say, we trust—he is content to give us a pleasant holiday.

Of course, from a single Number of a tale in twenty Parts, it is impossible to judge of the author's plan. It would be a fault in point

of Art, if any reader, however skilful, could detect thus early the scope and drift of the yet undeveloped course of events. "Little Dorrit" is named—referred to as a "whim"—but she is not yet on the scene. For, let us say at once, that "Little Dorrit" is not a broom, not a village, not a ship,—as has been variously surmised at various tea-tables,—where the book in the green cover is as eagerly expected as the news of the last battle,—but a live flesh and blood little girl.—"Affery, what girl was that in my mother's room just now?" asks Clennam of the waiting-woman.—"Oh! She? Little Dorrit? *She's nothing*: only a whim of—hers." And this is all No. I. is good enough to tell us of the heroine of our tale! But the stage is crowded with characters,—and with characters which are strongly suggested to the imagination rather than strongly painted to the eye. The two prisoners, the cheerful little Italian and the gloomy Gaul—the brusque, homely Meagles and the dreamy, vacillating Clennam—the cold, mysterious Miss Wade and the spoilt and gracious Pet—the grim, old, Calvinistic Mrs. Clennam and the crooked, wizened Flintwinch—all these are brought to the mind by a few touches of nature, and are less broadly marked, less rouged and oched, and hacked and draped, than has been usual with Mr. Dickens in his elaborate and popular panorama of characters. So far as these personages are concerned, we think we trace in the artist's hand a finer touch, a more delicate discrimination,—and we record our pleasure in this evidence of an ever-ripening genius and an ever-progressing art.

To tell so much of the story as is yet laid out would be useless. To speculate upon the course of events, as this may have shaped itself in the mind of the writer, would be equally useless. Our readers will probably be as glad to see as much of the tale itself as they can,—and we shall therefore pass at once to a few extracts, descriptions of the scenes, persons, and conversations, which for the next year and a half will form a topic of conversation in many circles scarcely less interesting than that of the War itself. Mr. Dickens has obtained the ear of his country more completely than any other man; and, on the whole, he uses his glorious privilege for the noblest ends. His monthly Part carries joy, mourning, laughter, and tears into thousands of households; and this laughter and these tears are such as brighten and purify the heart.

But to our extracts:—which we give in the order most agreeable to our own fancy, and with headings for which we, not Mr. Dickens, are responsible.—

## MARSEILLES IN THE SUN.

"Thirty years ago, Marseilles lay burning in the sun, one day. A blazing sun upon a fierce August day was no greater rarity in southern France then, than at any other time, before or since. Every thing in Marseilles, and about Marseilles, had stared at the fervid sky, and been stared at in return, until a staring habit had become universal there. Strangers were stared out of countenance by staring white houses, staring white walls, staring white streets, staring tracts of arid road, staring hills from which verdure was burnt away. The only things to be seen not fixedly staring and glaring were the vines drooping under their load of grapes. These did occasionally wink a little, as the hot air barely moved their faint leaves. There was no wind to make a ripple on the foul water within the harbour, or on the beautiful sea without. The line of demarcation between the two colours, black and blue, showed the point which the pure sea would not pass; but it lay as quiet as the abominable pool, with which it never mixed. Boats without awnings were too hot to touch; ships blistered at their moorings; the stones of the quays had not cooled, night or day, for months. Hindoos, Russians, Chinese, Spaniards,

Portuguese, Englishmen, Frenchmen, Genoese, Neapolitans, Venetians, Greeks, Turks, descendants from all the builders of Babel, come to trade at Marseilles, sought the shade alike—taking refuge in any hiding-place from a sea too intensely blue to be looked at, and a sky of purple, set with one great flaming jewel of fire. The universal stare made the eyes ache. Towards the distant line of Italian coast, indeed, it was a little relieved by light clouds of mist, slowly rising from the evaporation of the sea; but it softened nowhere else. Far away the staring roads, deep in dust, stared from the hill-side, stared from the hollow, stared from the interminable plain. Far away the dusty vines overhanging wayside cottages, and the monotonous wayside avenues of parched trees without shade, drooped beneath the stare of earth and sky. So did the horses with drowsy bells, in long files of carts, creeping slowly towards the interior; so did their recumbent drivers, when they were awake, which rarely happened; so did the exhausted labourers in the fields. Everything that lived or grew, was oppressed by the glare; except the lizard, passing swiftly over rough stone walls, and the cicada, chirping his dry hot chirp, like a rattle. The very dust was scorched brown, and something quivered in the atmosphere as if the air itself were panting. Blinds, shutters, curtains, awnings, were all closed and drawn to keep out the stare. Grant it but a chink or key-hole, and it shot in like a white-hot arrow. The churches were the freest from it. To come out of the twilight of pillars and arches—dreamily dotted with winking lamps, dreamily peopled with ugly old shadows piously dozing, spitting, and begging—was to plunge into a fiery river, and swim for life to the nearest strip of shade. So, with people lounging and lying wherever shade was, with but little hum of tongues or barking of dogs, with occasional jangling of discordant church bells, and rattling of vicious drums, Marseilles, a fact to be strongly smelt and tasted, lay broiling in the sun one day."

Over against this hot Danby-like picture we shall hang in our little gallery a sketch of

## A LONDON SUNDAY.

"It was a Sunday evening in London, gloomy, close and stale. Maddening church bells of all degrees of dissonance, sharp and flat, cracked and clear, fast and slow, made the brick and mortar echoes hideous. Melancholy streets in a penitential garb of soot, steeped the souls of the people who were condemned to look at them out of windows, in dire despondency. In every thoroughfare, up almost every alley, and down almost every turning, some doleful bell was throbbing, jerking, tolling, as if the Plague were in the city and the dead-carts were going round. Everything was bolted and barred that could by possibility furnish relief to an over-worked people. No pictures, no unfamiliar animals, no rare plants or flowers, no natural or artificial wonders of the ancient world—all *taboo* with that enlightened strictness, that the ugly South Sea gods in the British Museum might have supposed themselves at home again. Nothing to see but streets, streets, streets. Nothing to breathe but streets, streets, streets. Nothing to change the brooding mind, or raise it up. Nothing for the spent toiler to do, but to compare the monotony of his seventh day with the monotony of his six days, think what a weary life he led, and make the best of it—or the worst, according to the probabilities. At such a happy time, so propitious to the interests of religion and morality, Mr. Arthur Clennam, newly arrived from Marseilles by way of Dover, and by Dover coach the Blue-eyed Maid, sat in the window of a coffee-house on Ludgate Hill. Ten thousand responsible houses surrounded him, frowning as heavily on the streets they composed as if they were every one inhabited by the ten young men of the Calender's story, who blackened their faces and beanoed their miseries every night. Fifty thousand lairs surrounded him where people lived so unwholesomely, that fair water put into their crowded rooms on Saturday night would be corrupt on Sunday morning; albeit my lord, their county member, was amazed that they failed to sleep in company with their butcher's meat. Miles of close wells and pits of houses, where the inhabitants gasped for air, stretched far away towards every point of the compass. Through the heart of the town a deadly sewer ebbed and flowed, in the

place of a fine fresh river. What secular want could the million or so of human beings whose daily labour, six days in the week, lay among these Arcadian objects, from the sweet sameness of which they had no escape between the cradle and the grave—what secular want could they possibly have upon their seventh day? Clearly they could want nothing but a stringent policeman."

This extract shows that part of the scene of 'Little Dorrit' lies in England; and before we return from foggy London to the brighter South we are tempted to extract this fancy on

#### CHURCH BELLS.

"Mr. Arthur Clennam sat in the window of the coffee-house on Ludgate Hill, counting one of the neighbouring bells, making sentences and burdens of songs out of it in spite of himself, and wondering how many sick people it might be the death of in the course of a year. As the hour approached, its changes of measure made it more and more exasperating. At the quarter, it went off into a condition of deadly lively impatience, urging the populace in a voluble manner to Come to church, Come to church, Come to church! At the ten minutes, it became aware that the congregation would be scanty, and slowly hammered out in low spirits. They *won't* come, they *won't* come, they *won't* come! At the five minutes, it abandoned hope, and shook every house in the neighbourhood for three hundred seconds, with one dismal swing per second, as a groan of despair."

A picture equally painted in shade is the old prison in Marseilles, in which the story opens. Here the reader has a glimpse through a chink as it were, of

#### A FRENCH PRISON.

"A prison taint was on every thing there. The imprisoned air, the imprisoned light, the imprisoned damp, the imprisoned men, were all deteriorated by confinement. As the captive men were faded and haggard, so the iron was rusty, the stone was slimy, the wood was rotten, the air was faint, the light was dim. Like a well, like a vault, like a tomb, the prison had no knowledge of the brightness outside; and would have kept its polluted atmosphere intact, in one of the spice islands of the Indian Ocean."

In this pleasant place we find the poor Italian smuggler Cavalletto and the magnificent French adventurer Monsieur Rigaud. This latter personage, we suspect, is not unlikely to be a prominent actor in the tale; and he is altogether so magnificent a creature (and is so like a well-remembered criminal of real life) that we cannot doubt the reader's desire to make his acquaintance. Reader—

#### MONSIEUR RIGAUD.

"What an infernal hole this is!" said Monsieur Rigaud, breaking a long pause. "Look at the light of day. Day? The light of yesterday week, the light of six months ago, the light of six years ago. So slack and dead!" It came languishing down a square funnel that blinded a window in the staircase wall, through which the sky was never seen—nor anything else. "Cavalletto," said Monsieur Rigaud, suddenly withdrawing his case from this funnel, to which they had both involuntarily turned their eyes, "you know me for a gentleman?"—"Surely, surely!"—"How long have we been here?"—"I, eleven weeks, to-morrow night at midnight. You, nine weeks and three days, at five this afternoon."—"Have I ever done anything here? Ever touched the broom, or spread the mats, or rolled them up, or found the draughts, or collected the dominoes, or put my hand to any kind of work?"—"Never!"—"Have you ever thought of looking to me to do any kind of work?" John Baptist answered with that peculiar back-handed shake of the right forefinger which is the most expressive negative in the Italian language. "No! You knew from the first moment when you saw me here, that I was a gentleman?"—"ALTRO!" returned John Baptist, closing his eyes and giving his head a most vehement toss. The word being, according to its Genoese emphasis, a confirmation, a contradiction, an assertion, a denial, a taunt, a compliment, a joke, and fifty other things, became in the present instance, with a significance beyond all power of written expression, our familiar English 'I

believe you!"—"Hah! You are right! A gentleman I am! And a gentleman I'll live, and a gentleman I'll die!" It's my intent to be a gentleman. It's my game. Death of my soul, I play it out wherever I go!" He changed his posture to a sitting one, crying with a triumphant air: "Here I am! See me! Shaken out of destiny's dicebox into the company of a mere smuggler;—shut up with a poor little contraband trader, whose papers are wrong, and whom the police lay hold of, besides, for placing his boat (as a means of getting beyond the frontier) at the disposition of other little people whose papers are wrong; and he instinctively recognises my position, even by this light and in this place. It's well done! By Heaven! I win, however the game goes." Again his moustache went up, and his nose came down. "What's the hour, now?" he asked, with a dry hot pallor upon him, rather difficult of association with merriment.—"A little half-hour after mid-day."—"Good! The President will have a gentleman before him soon. Come! Shall I tell you on what accusation? It must be now or never, for I shall not return here. Either I shall go free, or I shall go to be made ready for shaving. You know where they keep the razor." Signor Cavalletto took his cigarette from between his parted lips, and showed more momentary discomfiture than might have been expected. "I am a"—Monsieur Rigaud stood up to say it—"I am a cosmopolitan gentleman. I own no particular country. My father was Swiss—Canton de Vaud. My mother was French by blood, English by birth. I myself was born in Belgium. I am a citizen of the world." His theatrical air, as he stood with one arm on his hip, within the folds of his cloak, together with his manner of disregarding his companion and addressing the opposite wall instead, seemed to intimate that he was rehearsing for the President, whose examination he was shortly to undergo, rather than troubling himself merely to enlighten so small a person as John Baptist Cavalletto. "Call me five-and-thirty years of age. I have seen the world. I have lived here, and lived there, and lived like a gentleman everywhere. I have been treated and respected as a gentleman universally. If you try to prejudice me, by making out that I have lived by my wits—how do your lawyers live—your politicians—your intriguers—your men of the Exchange?" He kept his small smooth hand in constant requisition, as if it were a witness to his gentility, that had often done him good service before. "Two years ago I came to Marseilles. I admit that I was poor; I had been ill. When your lawyers, your politicians, your intriguers, your men of the Exchange, fall ill, and have not scraped money together, they become poor. I put up at the Cross of Gold,—kept then by Monsieur Henri Barronneau—sixty-five at least, and in a failing state of health. I had lived in the house some four months, when Monsieur Henri Barronneau had the misfortune to die;—at any rate, not a rare misfortune, that. It happens without any aid of mine, pretty often." John Baptist having smoked his cigarette down to his fingers' ends, Monsieur Rigaud had the magnanimity to throw him another. He lighted the second at the ashes of the first, and smoked on, looking sideways at his companion, who, pre-occupied with his own case, hardly looked at him. "Monsieur Barronneau left a widow. She was two-and-twenty. She had gained a reputation for beauty, and (which is often another thing) was beautiful. I continued to live at the Cross of Gold. I married Madame Barronneau. It is not for me to say whether there was any great disparity in such a match. Here I stand, with the contamination of a jail upon me; but it is possible that you may think me better suited to her than her former husband was." He had a certain air of being a handsome man—which he was not; and a certain air of being a well-bred man—which he was not. It was mere swagger and challenge; but in this particular, as in many others, blustering assertion goes for proof, half over the world. "Be it as it may, Madame Barronneau approved of me. That is not to prejudice me I hope?" His eye happening to light upon John Baptist with this inquiry, that little man briskly shook his head in the negative, and repeated in an argumentative tone under his breath, *altro, altro, altro, altro*—an infinite number of times. "Now came the difficulties of our position. I am

proud. I say nothing in defence of pride, but I am proud. It is also my character to govern. I can't submit; I must govern. Unfortunately, the property of Madame Rigaud was settled upon herself. Such was the insane act of her late husband. More unfortunately still, she had relations. When a wife's relations interpose against a husband who is a gentleman, who is proud, and who must govern, the consequences are inimical to peace. There was yet another source of difference between us. Madame Rigaud was unfortunately a little vulgar. I sought to improve her manners and ameliorate her general tone; she (supported in this likewise by her relations) resented my endeavours. Quarrels began to arise between us; and, propagated and exaggerated by the slanders of the relations of Madame Rigaud, to become notorious to the neighbours. It has been said that I treated Madame Rigaud with cruelty. I may have been seen to slap her face—nothing more. I have a light hand; and if I have been seen apparently to correct Madame Rigaud in that manner, I have done it almost playfully. If the playfulness of Monsieur Rigaud was at all expressed by his smile at this point, the relations of Madame Rigaud might have said that they would have much preferred his correcting that unfortunate woman seriously. "I am sensitive and brave. I do not advance it as a merit to be sensitive and brave, but it is my character. If the male relations of Madame Rigaud had put themselves forward openly, I should have known how to deal with them. They knew that, and their machinations were conducted in secret; consequently, Madame Rigaud and I were brought into frequent and unfortunate collision. Even when I wanted any little sum of money for my personal expenses, I could not obtain it without a collision;—and I too, a man whose character it is to govern! One night, Madame Rigaud and myself were walking amicably—I may say like lovers—on a height overhanging the sea. An evil star occasioned Madame Rigaud to advert to her relations; I reasoned with her on that subject, and remonstrated on the want of duty and devotion manifested in her allowing herself to be influenced by their jealous animosity towards her husband. Madame Rigaud retorted, I retorted. Madame Rigaud grew warm; I grew warm, and provoked her. I admit it. Frankness is a part of my character. At length, Madame Rigaud, in an access of fury that I must ever deplore, threw herself upon me with screams of passion (no doubt those that were overheard at some distance), tore my clothes, tore my hair, lacerated my hands, trampled and trod the dust, and finally leaped over, dashing herself to death upon the rocks below. Such is the train of incidents which malice has perverted into my endeavouring to force from Madame Rigaud a relinquishment of her rights; and, on her persistence in a refusal to make the concession I required, struggling with her—assassinating her!"

The reader has by this time probably felt uneasy on the score of Monsieur Rigaud's chances of escape. The thing looks awkward, and his acquittal under such circumstances will redound to Mr. Dickens's credit as a Templar. We know of only one other English barrister who would have no difficulty in bringing Monsieur Rigaud out of court with flying colours!

We part from these interesting gentlemen at a critical moment, and step into the company of a travelling family of English and their maid Tattycoram—all in a prison of another, and scarcely more agreeable, kind. In a prison you may, perhaps, catch a fever and die. In quarantine you are pretty certain to do so. Some of the beauties of this sort of civilized confinement our readers shall see by hastily dipping—as a privilege—upon a few

#### ENGLISH IN QUARANTINE.

"No more of yesterday's howling, over yonder, to-day, sir; is there?"—"I have heard none."—"Then you may be sure there is none. When these people howl, they howl to be heard."—"Most people do, I suppose."—"Ah! But these people are always howling. Never happy otherwise."—"Do you mean the Marseilles people?"—"I mean the French people. They're always at it. As to Marseilles, we know what Marseilles is. It sent the most insur-



tionary tune into the world that was ever composed. It couldn't exist without allonging and marshonging to something or other—victory or death, or blazes, or something.' The speaker, with a whimsical good humour upon him all the time, looked over the parapet wall with the greatest disparagement of Marseilles; and taking up a determined position, by putting his hands in his pockets, and rattling his money at it, apostrophised it with a short laugh. 'Allong and marshong, indeed. It would be more creditable to you, I think, to let other people allong and marshong about their lawful business, instead of shutting 'em up in quarantine!'—'Tiresome enough,' said the other. 'But we shall be out to-day.'—'Out to-day!' repeated the first. 'It's almost an aggravation of the enormity, that we shall be out to-day. Out! What have we ever been in for?'—'For no very strong reason I must say. But as we come from the East, and as the East is the country of the plague.'—'The plague!' repeated the other. 'That's my grievance. I have had the plague continually, ever since I have been here. I am like a sane man shut up in a madhouse; I can't stand the suspicion of the thing. I came here as well as ever I was in my life; but to suspect me of the plague is to give me the plague. And I have had it—and I have got it.'—'You bear it very well, Mr. Meagles,' said the second speaker, smiling. 'No. If you knew the real state of the case, that's the last observation you would think of making. I have been waking up, night after night, and saying, *now* I have got it, *now* it has developed itself, *now* I am in for it, *now* these fellows are making out their case for their precautions. Why, I'd as soon have a spit put through me, and be stuck upon a card in a collection of beetles, as lead the life I have been leading here.'—'Well, Mr. Meagles, say no more about it, now it's over,' urged a cheerful feminine voice. 'Over!' repeated Mr. Meagles, who appeared (though without any ill-nature) to be in that peculiar state of mind in which the last word spoken by anybody else is a new injury. 'Over! and why should I say no more about it because it's over!' It was Mrs. Meagles who had spoken to Mr. Meagles; and Mrs. Meagles was, like Mr. Meagles, comely and healthy, with a pleasant English face which had been looking at homely things for five-and-fifty years or more, and shone with a bright reflection of them. 'There! Never mind, Father, never mind!' said Mrs. Meagles. 'For goodness sake content yourself with Pet.'—'With Pet?' repeated Mr. Meagles in his injured vein. Pet, however, being close behind him, touched him on the shoulder, and Mr. Meagles immediately forgave Marseilles from the bottom of his heart. Pet was about twenty. A fair girl with rich brown hair hanging free in natural ringlets. A lovely girl, with a frank face, and wonderful eyes; so large, so soft, so bright, set to such perfection in her kind good head. She was round and fresh and dimpled and spoilt, and there was in Pet an air of timidity and dependence which was the best weakness in the world, and gave her the only crowning charm a girl so pretty and pleasant could have been without. 'Now, I ask you,' said Mr. Meagles in the blandest confidence, falling back a step himself, and handing his daughter a step forward to illustrate his question: 'I ask you simply as between man and man, you know, did you ever hear of such damned nonsense as putting Pet in quarantine?'—

Pet's own peculiar maid—a very peculiar maid, as the reader is likely to discover ere 'Little Dorrit' has grown into twenty numbers—is, as we have hinted above, called Tattycoram. A queer name; and this is the way in which Mr. Dickens describes his Pet as having become originally possessed of

## TATTYCORAM.

"Tattycoram, stick you close to your young mistress."—He spoke to a handsome girl with lustrous dark hair and eyes, and very neatly dressed, who replied with a half curtsy as she passed off in the train of Mrs. Meagles and Pet. They crossed the bare scorched terrace, all three together, and disappeared through a staring white archway. Mr. Meagles's companion, a grave dark man of forty, still stood looking towards this archway after they were gone; until Mr. Meagles tapped him on the arm.—'I beg your pardon,' said he, starting.—'Not at all,'

said Mr. Meagles.—They took one silent turn backward and forward in the shade of the wall, getting, at the height on which the quarantine barracks are placed, what cool refreshment of sea breeze there was, at seven in the morning. Mr. Meagles's companion resumed the conversation.—'May I ask you,' he said, 'what is the name of—'—'Tattycoram?' Mr. Meagles struck in. 'I have not the least idea.'—'I thought,' said the other, 'that—'—'Tattycoram?' suggested Mr. Meagles again.—'Thank you—that Tattycoram was a name; and I have several times wondered at the oddity of it.'—'Why, the fact is,' said Mr. Meagles, 'Mrs. Meagles and myself are, you see, practical people.'—'That, you have frequently mentioned in the course of the agreeable and interesting conversations we have had together walking up and down on these stones,' said the other, with a half smile breaking through the gravity of his dark face.—'Practical people. So one day, five or six years ago now, when we took Pet to church at the Foundling—you have heard of the Foundling Hospital in London? Similar to the Institution for the Found Children in Paris?'—'I have seen it.'—'Well! One day when we took Pet to church there to hear the music—because, as practical people, it is the business of our lives to show her everything that we think can please her—Mother (my usual name for Mrs. Meagles) began to cry so, that it was necessary to take her out. "What's the matter, Mother?" said I, when we had brought her a little round; "you are frightening Pet, my dear."—"Yes, I know that, Father," says Mother, "but I think it's through my loving her so much, that it ever came into my head."—"That ever what came into your head, Mother?"—"O dear, dear!" cried Mother, breaking out again, "when I saw all those children ranged tier above tier, and appealing from the father none of them has ever known on earth, to the great Father of us all in Heaven, I thought, does any wretched mother ever come here, and look among those young faces, wondering which is the poor child she brought into this forlorn world, never through all its life to know her love, her kiss, her face, her voice, even her name!"—Now that was practical in Mother, and I told her so. I said, "Mother, that's what I call practical in you, my dear."—"The other, not unmoved, assented."—So I said next day: now, Mother, I have a proposition to make that I think you'll approve of. Let us take one of those same children to be a little maid to Pet. We are practical people. So if we should find her temper a little defective, or any of her ways a little wide of ours, we shall know what we have to take into account. We shall know what an immense deduction must be made from all the influences and experiences that have formed us—no parents, no child-brother or sister, no individuality of home, no Glass Slipper, or Fairy Godmother. And that's the way we came by Tattycoram.'—'And the name itself.'—'By George!' said Mr. Meagles, 'I was forgetting the name itself. Why, she was called in the Institution, Harriet Beadle—an arbitrary name, of course. Now, Harriet we changed into Hatty, and then into Tatty, because, as practical people, we thought even a playful name might be a new thing to her, and might have a softening and affectionate kind of effect, don't you see? As to Beadle, that I needn't say was wholly out of the question. If there is anything that is not to be tolerated on any terms, anything that is a type of jack-in-office insolence and absurdity, anything that represents in coats, waistcoats, and big sticks, our English holding-on by nonsense, after every one has found it out, it is a beadle. You haven't seen a beadle lately?'—'As an Englishman, who has been more than twenty years in China, no.'—'Then,' said Mr. Meagles, laying his forefinger on his companion's breast with great animation, 'don't you see a beadle, now, if you can help it. Whenever I see a beadle in full fig, coming down a street on a Sunday at the head of a charity school, I am obliged to turn and run away, or I should hit him. The name of Beadle being out of the question, and the originator of the Institution for these poor foundlings having been a blessed creature of the name of Coram, we gave that name to Pet's little maid. At one time she was Tatty, and at one time she was Coram, until we got into a way of mixing the two names together, and now she is always Tattycoram.'—

We must stay our hand. To have quoted less would have been unfair to the author; to quote more would be unfair to the reader. Enough has been cited to show that here is the commencement of a racy and vigorous tale—a canvas crowded with original and interesting people. What we have quoted will, doubtless, send our readers to the story itself, and will make them eager for the sequel.

*Principles of Government; or, Meditations in Exile.* By William Smith O'Brien. 2 vols. Dublin, Duffy.

FROM Thucydides to Guizot, it has been the custom of statesmen who have failed and found their way into exile,—or into that worse species of banishment, "retirement" out of mind without being out of sight,—to favour the world with their views on the methods of successful government in human affairs. On the whole, the world has not much laughed at this amusing weakness; disposed perhaps to think that a man who has acted history is already provided with several of the qualities for writing history; and, at any rate, that political disquisition from an experienced politician, even though he may be an exhausted one, is likely to be of value. The great historians have not all been men of actual active "affairs." In relation to ordinary persons, writing the average ephemeral book, we are perhaps more likely to get a sound political article about the British constitution from Mr. Smith O'Brien, who has been M.P., agitator, convicted and punished conspirator, than from Prof. Blank, who judges of political philosophy and party passions from Locke and his daily newspaper.

Mr. O'Brien, who was a scholar long before he was an agitator, and who would have been, perhaps, a more vehement tribune had he been a less refined student, states, in his Preface to these two volumes (creditable to Dublin publishing), that, while undergoing his sentence in Australia, he resolved, as the best method of calming and occupying his mind, to undertake a book. His first idea, a natural one, was a 'History of Ireland,'—a work yet to be written, Moore notwithstanding!—but a fatal obstacle to that enterprise was the circumstance that Australia did not abound with materials for the annals of the unappreciated province. Far easier was it to pour out, in pleasant looseness, the general conclusions to which he had come on the science and art of government in his varied experience, thus:—

"During a period of more than twenty-five years I have had such opportunities of observation in regard of political affairs as present themselves to but few writers. I have been a Member of the British Parliament during eighteen years. I have taken a part in the most perfectly organized, if not the most formidable, "agitation" that is known to recent history. As an Irish country gentleman, I have been engaged, during many years, in the details of local administration, whilst performing the duties of grand juror, magistrate, guardian of the poor, and in discharge of other similar functions. I have been associated with many voluntary societies, both in England and Ireland, founded for the propagation of knowledge and for the advancement of social progress. I have undergone imprisonment of various degrees during a period of six years; and as a transported convict, I have witnessed not only many different forms of penal discipline, but also many of the earliest processes of colonization."

Mr. O'Brien, we are bound to say, at the outset, has fulfilled his intention, "to write as a citizen of the world rather than as an Irish patriot." In his principal reference to the relations of England and Ireland, he speaks in the past tense of the Saxon and Protestant ascendancy,—avoiding any illustration of his arguments from what he must regard as the recent

crimes and blunders of English statesmanship in Ireland. Throughout, the tone is calm and conscientious, in no degree affected by the Irish point of view; his admissions in respect to certain portions of the English constitution and some points in English history being larger and handsomer than many a purely English Liberal would be disposed to make. He starts with the concession, that—

Whatever is best administered is best;

that despotisms and republics are good according to circumstances; and that political forms are as much the growth of particular climates and circumstances as plants and beasts. How a man so evidently sensible and acute and fair could have got into a rebellion only matched in history for its absurdity by the attempt of the Holy Maid of Kent, will puzzle readers who come to this book with the popular impressions against Mr. Smith O'Brien as a man who made himself known in Imperial affairs by a sulk in the House of Commons coal-cellar and a surrender in a cabbage-garden. It may, however, be worth while to suggest that the general career was not consistent with the one bewildering aberration. Mr. Smith O'Brien, the head of the first family in the country, and an earnest Protestant, could never have meant, in 1848, what his allies, republicans and Roman Catholics, meant.

The two volumes now published are of unequal interest and merit:—the second—which goes over ground specially British (descriptive of the executive in detail), is interesting to every Member of Parliament, to every county justice, and to every one who is engaged in making and carrying out the laws—and is far the better of the two in style and matter. Upon the subjects he selects in the first volume—'Legislative Institutions,' 'The Organization of a Government,' 'Fundamental Principles of Legislation,' &c.—what but weak generalization is possible? What we seek from the experienced Member of Parliament, who was an insurgent against the monarchy, and went to study the Convict Question at the fountain-head, is something essentially different. From his abstract views we infer that he is influenced by two distinct convictions: that, under any circumstances, an Oligarchy (a term which he seems to think is still too descriptive of an English government) is the worst form of government; and that, under any form of central government, local self-government in municipal and police affairs proper is the best guarantee of the happiness and prosperity of a people. What he most admires in British affairs is the distribution of public duties.—

"One of the noblest characteristics of the political institutions of Great Britain has been this allotment of several of the functions of civil administration,—such as those of magistrate, grand juror, mayor, and town councillor, juryman, guardian of the poor, churchwarden, harbour commissioner, Member of Parliament, privy councillor, &c., to the unpaid service of independent citizens. Although it may be argued that these services would have been more effectually performed by paid officials dependent upon the central Government, yet, even if this point were conceded, the advantage would be dearly purchased by a sacrifice of that manly and self-relying spirit which is generated by the exercise of social duties of a public nature, and which is the best guarantee for the preservation of a nation's liberty."

Mr. O'Brien concludes his first volume with a view of the duty of a government to amuse the people. There is a large class among us who regard the sittings of Parliament as our best "public amusement"; but what Mr. O'Brien means is that gymnasia should be established,—with popular recreations equivalent to the maypole and popinjay-shooting performances of our forefathers; and, had he written after Lord

Stanley's proposal of village public libraries, he would probably have indorsed some such plan. On this topic we find the strongest sneer against Queen Victoria and her aristocracy in which the rebel Irish gentleman indulges himself; and the civilized among us will for once agree with the descendant of the Dane-annihilating Brian Boroinhe:—

"There is, perhaps, no country in Europe in which so little has been done to promote the amusement of the people as in the United Kingdom. Upon the Continent there are few towns of any considerable size, in which arrangements have not been made either by the central Government, or by the municipal authorities, to give to the inhabitants the pleasures afforded by public promenades and gardens, military music, theatres, museums of painting, sculpture, and natural history, &c. In the United Kingdom, on the contrary, even the public squares are for the most part reserved exclusively for the enjoyment of the privileged few, instead of being thrown open to the whole population; and access to the repositories of Art—nay, even to the glorious old cathedrals, which were erected during the time which we presumptuously designate as 'the dark ages,' can seldom be procured except by payment of a fee on admission. Yet we boast of modern refinement, civilization, progress, and philanthropy!"

Some of the general conclusions arrived at by the Exile may be summed up:—the power of voting in parliament by proxy is bad in principle, but if the Peers possess it, so should the Commons; universal suffrage in Great Britain would result in the omnipotence of the lower classes, but the suffrage ought to be extended so as to represent equitably all classes; the House of Lords ought to be reformed; the clergy ought to have a right to be represented in parliament, but the Church of England ought to govern herself by Convocation, including lay representation; the duration of parliament should never extend beyond four years; declaration of war ought to rest with the parliament, and not with the sovereign; the "count out" (here Mr. O'Brien writes with obvious feeling) ought to be abolished; the right to bear arms ought to be maintained by the population, who ought to have a (locally self-governed) national guard or militia; the law of settlement (poor law) is an outrage on justice; transportation is the only safe method of dealing with criminals; there ought to be a Minister of Public Instruction. On the last point Mr. O'Brien further contends that this Minister, whose functions have no connexion with party, should be irremovable during changes of government.

What the national system of education to be directed by this director ought to be, Mr. O'Brien does not very precisely define, and his declining to dogmatize on that subject is, at any rate in England, a recommendation. He seems to think that in this as in other matters the first consideration should be to retain the control in the locality. The State, he says,—

"ought to guide, assist, and superintend education. The State ought to take measures for bringing within reach of every child in the community that sort of instruction which is best suited to its circumstances, and best calculated to promote its welfare and advancement in life; but these aims ought to be effected rather by developing the educational capacity inherent in each section of the community, than by constraining the mind of the country to assume a certain definite character through the instrumentality of centralized institutions. The arguments which have been urged against excessive centralization in regard to the general functions of government apply also to education. The arguments which we have brought forward in favour of local self-government apply also to educational training. Self-reliance is a quality without which vigour of character cannot exist in nations or in individuals; and the habit of leaning too much upon governmental agency tends utterly to destroy a spirit of self-reliance.

To construct a system founded on these principles is no easy task; but the statesman ought not to shrink from an endeavour to bring sound principles into practical operation."

The chapter on the 'Treatment of Prisoners,' in which a dispassionate opinion is given in favour of transportation as the most real secondary punishment—is one which Lord Grey and Mr. Serjeant Adams will make much of. Mr. O'Brien has selected the Falkland Islands to relieve Millbank.

We may finish our consideration of this work, which the character and career of the author rather than its own nature render a curiosity, with an extract which is pertinent to the topics of the day. We cannot be suspected of political purpose in making the selection, for while the "Peace Party" is put down in the first sentences, the latter crushes Englishmen altogether! We give it as a revelation of the mind of a man who is still the exponent of the philosophy and hopes of "Young Ireland":—

"I do not belong to that whining tribe of philanthropists, who profess to imagine that war can at all times be avoided. \* \* \* If the opinion of the wise and good could restrain the passions of mankind, it would be much more desirable that philanthropists should apply themselves to the propagation of sound doctrines respecting the circumstances and contingencies which justify war, than that they should advocate its total cessation. Notwithstanding the experience derived from the history of man during three thousand years, nations and their rulers appear to be as ignorant, or rather, perhaps, as reckless, of the first principles of justice, at the present moment, as they were during the age of Sesostris or of Cyrus. In the pacification of Europe, at the treaty of Vienna, states, formerly independent, were portioned out, with as little regard to national feelings or prescriptive rights as if they had been mere booty exposed for allotment by a party of successful brigands. England claims for herself the first place in directing the opinion of Europe to aims sanctioned by justice and humanity, yet her conduct during the most recent, as in the earliest days of her history, has been little else than a course of unprovoked aggression upon unoffending nations, or of unprincipled acquisition in her dealings with nations weaker than herself. During the last twenty years, for instance, she has carried on war in Spain, in Syria, in Afghanistan, in Scinde, in India, in China, for objects many of which were not sanctioned by justice or morality; and her dealings towards the inhabitants of Southern Africa, New Zealand, and Borneo have been prompted by insatiable cupidity, as well as stained by a reckless effusion of blood."

Calm beyond expectation,—but, as the foregoing shows, not calm beyond the limits of reason,—this book will probably find some readers.

*An Essay on Intuitive Morals: being an Attempt to Popularize Ethical Science. Part I. Theory of Morals.* Longman & Co.

THIS book contains the Moral Theory of that school of Theology which acknowledges Mr. Theodore Parker for its chief, or, at least, for the most able expounder of its imaginings. Not that it follows the words or thoughts of any one man or settles its creed in formularies. To be free to seek truth in what way a man feels himself by his true nature impelled, and to have, each one for himself, an intellectual vision of what he believes, is essential; but there are general views, opinions, beliefs, and feelings common to its members which bind them together; and they may well be called a school; and we believe that few of them will contest the first place with Mr. Theodore Parker. They have been most untruly numbered among the Pantheists, for which there is no colour at all; they are rather allied to those sects which we call Mystic. That all knowledge is of the nature of a wonderful revelation to us,—that



the existence, the laws, the harmonies of the outer world are revealed to us through the senses and lower faculties,—and that by higher, but similar, revelations are made known to us the Most High, with his attributes—in fact, whatever is the object of the religious sentiment and of the moral judgment. All knowledge is an inspiration of the Most High—a light kindled from above,—and the degree of it “must depend on the man’s quantity of being and quantity of obedience.”

The book before us, as we have said, advocates this theory of intuition, or vision, or inspiration; and the author undertakes to apply it to the moral law—that it is through the spiritual vision that the rules of right, the obligations of morality, are made known to us. The author has not explained to us how he means to educate this spiritual vision, which is a power given from above. The degree of it, as our author quotes with approbation from Parker, “must depend on the quantity of a man’s being and quantity of obedience. Universal and infallible inspiration is not possible to man.” A man has a clearer view of the moral law according to the greater “quantity of his being.” To increase the quantity of a man’s being, then, is the great problem of moral reformers, and presents two difficulties to our thoughts: what is the quantity of a man’s being, and how can we increase it?

Is there not also a still greater difficulty? If A. differs from B. on a moral question, B. may tell A. that A. has not enough of being to comprehend it. A. does not understand what B. means; but A. is silenced.

How, again, if the faculty that discerns those higher objects be different from the ordinary intellect, how is it to be reasoned and written about? The word “right,” seen by my eye, suggests the high thought of moral right, according to the same law that the word “stone” that I see through my eye suggests the thought of a stone. If they are wholly different faculties, how do you expect the sensible object, by the law of association, to call up the spiritual? or print, the visible words, to recall the knowledge of Deity or Duty?

There is throughout an air of sincerity and candour. Certainly no one but must feel the words with which the Preface is concluded: “I hope that there may be some who will bear from its perusal the conviction that Philosophy has no lesson more sure, nor Religion any doctrine of more divine authority than that voice of intuition which ever speaks in their hearts of the infinite goodness of our Father in Heaven, and of the awful sanctity of that eternal law which is impersonated in his righteous will.” These are solemn and holy words; but how does the author undertake to convince those who stand beyond the reach of his intuitions? By increasing the power of intuition,—that can only be by increasing the “quantity of being.” And how does his book increase the quantity of being? There is a way, we might suppose that it is by exciting the attention to those higher objects. A strange thing is the power of attention, and its laws are not yet sufficiently unravelled; but may the mind be withdrawn from sense and given to intuition, subject to the same law of attention that it may be turned from a red to a green thing?

In fact, this new school brings into that little Platonic republic, the human mind, some new faculties, new citizens, clearly not living apart from the old inhabitants, but organized with them in system: it is for this new school to show the nature of that organism, and what place the new powers take in the general system.

We are far from seeking to make light of the system, or to speak with other than profound

respect of its adherents: what we have stated thus casually are difficulties to be explained. How, in the theory of inspiration, there can be moral culture, and how those higher faculties work in connexion with the lower ones. What we call Philosophy is—reasoning, criticizing, discussing, speculating about its objects; how can there be a Philosophy of Intuition?

Of the great theories about the Origin of Evil and Predestination, which have troubled the strongest brains, our author is a little too presumptuous, considering the great intellects that have held the predestinarian theory. Speaking of it he says:—“It is here that the theoretic error, commonly harmless in the cool brain of the philosopher, becomes actively virulent when fired by the fever of the fanatic, who embraces a doctrine of which it may be truly said, that it unites every idea derogatory to the character of God, and every principle destructive of the morality of man.” And on the doctrine of Eternal Punishments:—“A pious mind revolts not merely from these dreadful dogmas, but from a belief that any child of our blessed Father has really believed such blasphemies against him.”

*The Last of the Arctic Voyages; being a Narrative of the Expedition in H.M.S. Assistance, under the command of Capt. Sir E. Belcher, C.B., in Search of Sir John Franklin during the Years 1852, 53, 54. With Notes on the Natural History, by Sir John Richardson, Prof. Owen, Thomas Bell, J. W. Salter, and Lovell Reeve. 2 vols. Reeve.*

Sir E. Belcher, it will be remembered, was selected by the Admiralty to command an expedition, consisting of the same ships which had been previously intrusted to Capt. Austin, who disappointed public expectation by returning to England without searching Wellington Channel. The examination of this Channel, at the entrance of which Franklin spent his first winter, was deemed of paramount importance, for it was the general belief of competent Arctic authorities that he had sailed up that Channel, and passed into open water, supposed to exist to the north. Besides this search, Sir E. Belcher was instructed to send Capt. Kellett with two ships to Melville Island, with the view of relieving Captains Collinson and McClure, who had entered the Arctic sea from Behring’s Straits. This service, which had the happy effect of rescuing Capt. McClure, was admirably executed by Capt. Kellett, whose officers, by extensive and enterprising sledge expeditions, made considerable additions to our Arctic discoveries round Melville Island. These proceedings are treated in a summary manner by our author, who occupies his volumes with details of his own performance. Indeed, it is very evident throughout his Narrative that he feels to be standing before the bar of public opinion, for he betrays the greatest anxiety to exculpate himself from censure, and is continually obtruding apologetic paragraphs upon the reader. Thus, at the commencement of his voyage, he says:—

“Henceforth we must be considered as sen, and dependent on, our own resources. Cut off, for a series of years, from any but our own companionship, and dependent in no small degree upon the *bond fide* constituents of our society, power ceases, and the will of the least amongst us may create *bella, horrida bella*. Upon what a volcano do we stand! The sullen chief, if he be so, must chew the cud, and vegetate year after year in sullenness and vexatiousness of spirit. No such purgatory could exist, better calculated for a man of narrow mind,—none so dangerous to a sensible mind. Such then being our feelings, I proceed, in charity with all men, not perfect myself, and willing to overlook all faults in others, provided they do not, when I tell them of it, still continue to tread upon my corns.”

And in another place, after some observations on defective ship-fittings, he observes:—

“I purposely introduce these remarks, to show what a very difficult position a man of common sense is placed in, when he accepts such a command. He can hardly be deemed a free agent; he is pestered by assertions that such was the course Captain H. pursued; and if he either doubts, opposes, or varies from these self-constituted Mentors, he must look for sulkiness, opposition, and the petty mutiny of petty minds. It is this underhand tyranny attempted on the chief, that has made so many officers declare ‘that no inducement would bring them here again.’ It is the duty of every man who may command such service to institute a full and complete inquiry into all its workings, and, if able, to afford such information as may be of service to his successors.”

This is surely not the language for an officer to hold intrusted with an Arctic command; but, as some excuse for Sir E. Belcher, and for his feelings, which throughout the volumes are indicative of an unhappy condition of mind, we deem it due to him to state that he appears to have suffered extremely from what he calls “carbuncles in the head,” which he declares worried him greatly. The cold, too, seems to have been particularly trying to his constitution. Alluding to this, he says:—

“I never intended to be killed, and so I told my surgeon when that idea was realized, but I am constantly asking people to view my nose. But as I have so far wandered into self, and I know that certain professional men who interest themselves about me will expect to know, I will merely say that I expected certain wounds, cuts, frost-bites of youth, &c., to trouble me. I have suffered intensely, more than can be explained, but nothing to disqualify me, in any manner, for this important command, or the liabilities attached thereto. My feelings are my own; so long as I perform all my duties, who cares for them?”

And during his second winter he observes:—

“It is customary to presume that the Captain will enjoy the greater degree of comfort; but I have a notion (under the fear of contradiction) that he is the most miserable, uncared-for individual in the vessels engaged on the service, and that, in order to watch the interests of all entrusted to his care, his *amour propre*, or general pride, in pursuance of naval discipline, impels him to exhibit that what he, in his person and place, can endure, all others should submit to without murmur; indeed, the night temperatures, notwithstanding a continuous fire, were intensely felt in my peculiarly weak condition.”

Reading these records of his sufferings, which we have reason to believe are not exaggerated, we cannot come to any other conclusion than that Sir E. Belcher was physically unfitted for the service for which he had volunteered, and that his unhappy condition of mind and body swayed his actions.

Singular success attended his Expedition during the first season. The ships left Greenhithe on the 21st of April, 1852, and by the 20th of August in the same year, the Assistance and her steam tender had passed up Wellington Channel as far as the high latitude of 77° 52', when they were arrested by ice. Boat and sledge explorations were now organized on the most approved system; and here we have an account of the mode of encampment.—

“The tent is very similar to that of American hunters, with this exception,—instead of two forked poles, and one horizontal, resting in the forks, with the sides pegged down, the extremities of these are framed by two boarding-pikes, forming the pitch or sheers at each end, and a horsehair (clothes) line stretched over these forks, and well secured to the sledge at the back, and by a pickaxe in front, keep all steady,—so long, at least, as they hold. Instead of pegging, the sides are well banked with snow, which retains the heat, and keeps them pretty secure, if well performed; but if not, the breeze is sure to penetrate and create more rattling than is conducive to comfort or pleasant dreams. Each person is furnished with a blanket-bag, formed of thick druggat

or felt, having an outside shell of prepared brown holland, supposed to be impervious to the air. The officer, who should always occupy the post of honour, is located at the extreme end, and that end is always placed towards the wind, in order to prevent its blowing into the mouth of the tent; he is able, therefore, to feel exactly for himself, as well as those around them. Into this chrysalis bag, by dint of a kind of caterpillar wriggle, each individual contracts himself, endeavouring, by every reasonable mode, to produce a suffocating heat, and using his knapsack, boots, sextant-case, or any other convenient object, for a pillow. Indeed, it is absolutely necessary to place any article, to be worn on getting up, sufficiently in contact with the body to preserve its flexibility, or to prevent its becoming frozen. Over the snow is spread an oilskin canvas and buffalo-robe carpet; and when all are laid out, or have supplied, a general coverlet of felt is superadded, which is supposed to confine the accumulation of animal warmth. Cold, it is imagined, does not ascend, nor heat descend; yet it is very distinctly felt in both ways, especially when the warmth produces something very similar to a thaw beneath. But the enemy,—not 'the sweet little cherub,' &c., but the barber,—is ever aloft, condensing the breath, and dropping down refreshing snow-showers, which makes one very dubious about exposing his head outside his shell, the lap of which he manages to turn down, and complete the envelope. The cookery and other proceedings are mere commonplace. In these tents you sleep as soundly as you can fancy, under the temperature, unless the whispers of 'bear,' or the ominous snuffling of that animal, should induce you to ask, 'Who is cook?' As this personage, although permitted to sleep at his post, is the sentinel *par excellence*, he of course has the place next the door, and, if not very sound asleep, is aroused, and betakes himself to reconnoitre; the result may appear in another act."

Having minutely examined the shores of the Queen's Channel and other openings to the east, they continued their explorations in a northerly direction, and made their grand discovery, of which we have the following account:—

"At a quarter-past eight we left the shore, and proceeded at a very cheering rate, steering by the sun; but the breeze failing shortly after noon, we had recourse to paddles. About one, we made out *terra firma*: but as my western object was clearly defined from Pioneer Peak, and I felt great confidence in 'first sight,' I pushed on for it, well aware that a latitude alone, obtained there, would secure its position beyond dispute. About a quarter-past two P.M. we effected a landing within the floe-edge, and about five miles from the north-western and extreme Point of this land. Of this new territory I now took possession for our Gracious Queen, with the customary form,—calling it, in compliment to His Royal Highness the Heir Apparent, 'North Cornwall.' Sir Edward Parry having adopted the western counties, Somerset, Devon, &c., the Scilly Isles, when discovered, remain for some more fortunate explorer. I know not whether 'Duke of Arctic Cornwall' may be added, but we drank the health of His Royal Highness most sincerely, to that title. Thick weather succeeded, but knowing how fickle Dame Nature is in these regions, I determined not to be caught napping. Proceeding inland, to the nearest accessible height which would command a northern as well as western range, we advanced about three miles. The view obtained was not indeed satisfactory, but we perhaps were too greedy. I saw enough to satisfy me that our present position was insular, and that no northern or western land was near. I have deemed the distance three miles, to be within bounds; but looking to the angles obtained from Pioneer Peak, I could not be less than five miles from the western point of the island, and our elevation not less than eight hundred feet. The ravines are deeply channelled out of a very friable sandstone, in the bottoms of which I noticed large masses of clay ironstone, septaria, and nodules of iron pyrites. Coal was also found, but disseminated, impossible to trace *in situ*. Bivalves, apparently of recent origin, and having the cartilage hinge perfect, were abundant. This is matter of grave consideration. When, or did the sea ever invade these heights? Yet the

cartilaginous hinge was perfect, and the epidermis in many instances scarcely removed. Birds may have placed these shells; but with our knowledge of this climate, prevailing ice, and the scarcity of animal life especially, this is scarcely credible. I cannot, will not, at present say more. This friable sandstone and sand, interspersed on the surface with boulders of granite, and almost garnet masses, constitutes the principal features of the land on the west of North Cornwall. \* \* Under a pair of high 'double cliffs' we pitched our tent; the snow was deep for the season, and no vegetation to be traced. At sunrise on the 2nd of September, every prospect of a bright, clear day promised, and I succeeded in obtaining the sun, as well as angles to Exmouth and Table Islands, but the snow still continued to fall, baffling further exertions. I ascended the high land commanding the eastern horizon, which at that time was very clear, but no land could be traced easterly of Table Island. The eastern limit of North Cornwall I was enabled to trace about fifteen miles, where it seemed to terminate in a low spit, and then turn abruptly to the north. I have therefore but little doubt that this great eastern space connects with Jones and Smith Sounds, or the Polar Ocean, on which the search of the next season will doubtless throw more light. Our business, it is true, does not so much concern geographical discovery, as the most scrutinizing search, not only for vessels, but for persons or their traces; and, however confident our opinions may be that they could not exist for such a lengthened period in this vicinity, still no excuse would be satisfactory, if we failed to silence the conjectures of those who might even imagine that any reasonable spot, to which access to them would perhaps be impossible, had not been rigorously examined. That duty yet remains to be executed, God willing; and in the prosecution of that duty, it may yet be our lot to determine if Sir John left any record in the so-called 'Jones Sound.' It is far from impossible that his vessels may have entered this region, and have drifted even thus far. If they reached this open water by Jones or Smith Channels, my impression is that they would endeavour to gain the northern water, and may be anywhere within the parallel of 80°, but I doubt it exceedingly."

Here we have Sir E. Belcher's distinct admission that no land could be traced east of Table Island, and that he had little doubt of the existence of a Polar Ocean,—a belief which has lately been strongly confirmed by Lieut. Kane's discovery of open water to the north of Smith's Sound.

The relics of Franklin's Expedition reported to have been found on the shores of North Somerset, of course diminishes the interest that we felt on the announcement of this discovery; but the dreary story brought home by Dr. Rae was unknown to Sir E. Belcher, when he turned his back upon that open water.

Our readers may remember the obscurity pervading Sir E. Belcher's Despatches to the Admiralty, published in the newspapers. We hoped, and indeed expected, that leisure and freedom from the anxiety of command would have enabled him to render clear what before was very difficult of comprehension; but we are disappointed, for the present volumes present the same jumble of operations, speculations, descriptions, and reflections that disfigured his Despatches. This is, however, certain, that as soon as his ships were liberated from their winter quarters the following summer, Sir E. Belcher turned south, and was only prevented reaching Beechey Island by the accumulation of ice off Cape Osborn. Here the ships were laid up during the second winter; and in August, 1854, conceiving that there was no probability of their being liberated, Sir E. Belcher abandoned them, and proceeded with his officers and crew to Beechey Island, where he was joined by Captains Kellett and McClure, with their officers and crew, and the entire party then returned to England, leaving their ships in the ice. Sir

E. Belcher devotes many pages to an apologetic defence of his conduct in thus sacrificing the ships. His instructions certainly gave him full power to take this step; but when he declares that an Arctic ship "is, as all experience has shown, of no further value as a sailing vessel, but simply to be sold to break up,"—he forgets a fact. His own ships had been in the Arctic seas under Capt. Austin; those commanded by Captains Collinson and McClure had previously been in Lancaster Sound with Sir James Ross; and Franklin's ships, the *Erebus* and *Terror*, had battled long and successfully with Arctic and Antarctic ice before they sailed on their last ill-fated voyage. Indeed, few things are more extraordinary than the capability of properly strengthened ships to resist the pressure of Arctic ice; and within the last few weeks we are startled by the intelligence that the *Resolute*, abandoned by Capt. Kellett off Melville Island, has drifted through Barrow's Straits and Lancaster Sound uninjured.

The fact is evident, that Sir E. Belcher was wearied by his Arctic labours, which had a very prejudicial effect upon his health; and though at the outset, when in sight of the great Polar water, he does not think it "at all impossible that Franklin may have entered that region," and states that the search of the open water which he discovered "remains to be executed," his views change at the expiration of the second winter, and we find him declaring his conviction, in his second volume, that the *Erebus* and *Terror* were crushed in Lancaster Sound.

In conclusion, we have to observe, that, besides the Narrative of the Expedition, which is profusely illustrated by extremely beautiful lithotints, the volumes contain valuable scientific matter; and there is a voluminous Appendix devoted to the Natural History of the Arctic regions.

*The Reformation*.—[Réforme]. By J. Michelet. Paris, Chamerot.

IN his volume on the 'Reformation,' as in that on the 'Renaissance,' M. Michelet presents a series of elaborate pictures, disposed with art to illustrate the main idea,—that of "a duel between two creeds." He finds the sources of the history in the twofold disturbance of Europe, by the Jews from Spain swarming into Italy, Germany, and the North, and by the Turks inundating it from the East. To these races, essentially differing in genius, he devotes a chapter of romantic analysis, tracing to their influence many of the perturbations that afterwards agitated the Old World. In continuous succession, he treats of printing, of early experiments in the free circulation of opinion, of the mental activity stimulated by commerce, of the skill and recklessness with which dynastic powers assumed, for personal interests, the principles of a rising faith destructive to their enemies. The massacres and martyrdoms of Paris,—the Austrian empire under Charles the Fifth, opposing the spirit of the Vaudois preachers,—the desolating progress of the Turks, interrupting the dissensions of Europe, form the broad dramatic events of the narrative; and Margaret of Navarre, Francis the First, the Constable Bourbon, the German Emperor, and Louisa of Savoy are the personages that occupy the stage, beside others—Albert Dürer and Sultan Solymán—who flit across the scene. As yet, M. Michelet has traversed only thirty-two years of the age of the Reformation, smoothing to a surface and inspiring with historical vitality the innumerable documents relating to that period which have recently been collected and criticized by German and English, as well as by French writers. Readers who desire to



comprehend the view here suggested of the Reformation, as a religious and also as a political event, may study with advantage his luminous, though somewhat fanciful, chapters. We shall best describe the book by translating some of the highly-finished passages, in which M. Michelet's peculiarities are his merits.

When the Jews, expelled from Portugal and Spain, dispersed over the other countries of Europe, they suffered, says M. Michelet, the worst rigours of exile. The Huguenots, escaping from France, found asylums in England, in Holland, in Prussia,—everywhere. But the Jews, flying from Spain in 1492, fell among bigots who held it virtuous to maltreat them. The practice of usury was the resource to which they turned—their reproach among Christians—but the only form of power they could create for themselves. M. Michelet's ideal of a Jewish family interior resembles an episode of Eastern romance.

In this mysterious dwelling the Jewish family lived,—serious, laborious, united, charitable to poorer brethren of the faith. Implacably hating the Christian, and revenging himself upon him by usury, the Jew was usually kind to those of his own religion,—a patriarch in his family, a generous councillor of the tribe. Superior to all reproach was the virtue of the Jewish matron,—incomparable was the purity of the Jewish virgin, luminous and transparent in her celestial beauty. The guardianship of this pearl of the East was the chief solicitude of the family,—a sober circle, grave, sad, fearful, always trembling under the shadows of calamity.

M. Michelet represents the Turkish character with conscientious accuracy. Under Selim they were exterminators, but under the other Sultans—Solyman especially—their organized multitudes traversed a conquered region, without desolating its fields or leaving shame and confusion in its cities. When Rhodes was captured, it was not the descendant of the Caliphs who gave it up to pillage. To the Grand Master, who shed tears over the downfall of the Knights, he addressed consoling words:—"It is the common lot of princes," said he, "to lose cities and kingdoms,"—and then, turning to his vizier, added, "It is not without regret that I turn this aged Christian out of his home." When Francis the First was his prisoner, he delicately recalled to him the captivity of his own ancestor, Bajazet, remarking that great men were often destined to rise above their misfortunes, the memory of which then became as glorious as their victories.

The Turks, who were not less feared and hated than the predatory followers of Genghiz Khan or Timour, were those savage tribes, desperate and ferocious, which hovered around the army, devastating as they went. By them no one was spared. Entering a city, they glutted its streets with blood; swarming over the plains, they blackened them with the ashes of unripened crops. But in the sixteenth century, the discipline of the real Turkish army was the admiration of Europe. In 1526, 200,000 soldiers marched across the empire, keeping to the public roads, and not trampling down a blade of grass. Plunderers—whether officers, judges, or common men—were hanged immediately.

In 1532 the envoy of Francis the First surveys with surprise the mighty army of Solyman, whose camp covered thirty miles. Wonderful order,—no violence,—tradesmen perfectly safe,—even women passing to and fro as in an European city. Life is as secure, as free and as pleasant, as in Venice.

But of Selim, M. Michelet's portrait is drawn in deep contrast to that of the magnanimous Solyman.

His short existence is comparable to that of a steel bow broken by a powerful machine. No pleasures, no festivities, no joys of love,—nothing human in it,—nothing but war, holy exterminations, and the delight of inflicting death. He took opium, but not enough to relax him from his callous composure,—

his serene and exalted cruelty. Himself a subtle poet, raised to sublimity by the lyric ideality of his nature, he seemed to stand above mortal life; separated from it by a cold and deadly abstraction. His horrible spiritualism induced him to rejoice in shedding the blood of those who seemed to blend the flesh and the spirit by the doctrine of the Incarnation.

Part of this is extravagance,—part history. In his survey of the Italian conflict, signalized by the victory of Pavia, M. Michelet includes a sketch of Italian villa life,—a sweet Virgilian picture, abounding in poetic graces, and bright as the pastoral haunts of old Sicily. The wars of the Reformation clouded these idyllic landscapes. Francis the First, mean and vile as he was, excites our pity when transferred from the resounding field of Pavia to the depths of his prison in Madrid.

This was a chamber in one of the towers of the citadel,—a small and dreary cell, with a narrow door, a single window, doubly grated with iron deeply clamped into the stone on every side. The window was high in the wall, so that to gain a glimpse of country—even of the arid tract of Manzanarez—the prisoner was obliged to climb, when he could see, a hundred feet below his dungeon, the two entire battalions which, by day and by night, kept watch over his captivity. It was infamous, but it was logical. The captor of Francis held France in pledge, for Francis still reigned; and what should his conqueror do but reduce him to despair, that he might betray himself and sacrifice his kingdom? The temperament of the captive was favourable to such a scheme. Young, vigorous, sanguine, an indefatigable hunter, and accustomed to be perpetually on horseback in the forests of France, here he was, in a cell, crouching ignominiously on the ground. Five paces across in one direction, five in another,—that was the extent of his liberty. Here was he—an insatiable votary of fierce passions—condemned to the chastity and to the privations of a monk, breathing only the dry hot atmosphere of Madrid, and the salt dust of Castille blown through the window. To live there,—to perish there,—to be enclosed in stone,—this was the alternative, or—submission.

When the wretched monarch recovered his liberty, he dedicated himself to an indolent profligacy in France. He had one refined taste, which among men in his position easily passes for a virtue—a love of architecture—the virtue of Caracalla, the virtue of the reigning King of Naples, and of other rulers who erect fine buildings at the public cost. The principal recreation of Francis the First, when tired of his black Spanish bitch, of his fair Picardian Piseleu, of Boccaccio's tales and chivalric poems, was to survey the progress of his palace at Blois. There he had surrounded an immense park with walls, which spared him the toil of driving the deer over irregular tracts of country or through the doubtful woods. The paltry little hamlet did not suffice as a place of rest. He would have a château.

Not an ancient château,—house and fortress in one, a close and rigid structure,—in which he would feel like a man in mail; not a savage, inhospitable *donjon* keep, whence the governor would exclude women, society, and all the charms of life. No; less a château than a convent, which, with its towers, its feudal flanking walls, would conceal innumerable chambers, delicious cabinets, mysterious retreats of pleasure. Such was the Eden of Chambord. It was not a Gothic castle or an Italian palace, which has more halls than chambers—immense space and little accommodation. Society was essential to the life of the king—a sprightly, mercurial, intriguing society. But he must, also, have apartments more isolated than cloisters, commanded by no others, enfiladed by no inconvenient windows. He even desired to have double staircases, by which he could mount and remount to any part of the building unsuspected and unperceived. Outside, there should be unity, a solemn harmony of well-proportioned towers, a cluster of belfries and Oriental minarets,

encircling the majestic central *donjon*. Within, there should be variety, gaiety, luxury, licence and pleasure.

During twelve years, in the midst of public poverty, Francis, with the insolence of a Pharaoh, employed eighteen hundred labourers upon this structure. The saints of the place—the *brunette* of the South, and the *blonde* of the North—the King's impure Hebes, were sculptured in one of the halls as Caryatides. The King also delighted in Fontainebleau,—which M. Michelet describes as the resting-place of Autumn.—"If you had suffered a misfortune, would you seek the asylum of consolation?"—"I would visit Fontainebleau."—"But if you were very happy?"—"I would visit Fontainebleau."—These queries and replies he quotes as the *mot* of a celebrated Frenchman, whose predilections were shared by Francis the First. It was his design to create at Fontainebleau a miniature Italy, and the time was propitious.—Rome had been sacked—Florence had fallen—Italian artists, dispersed over Europe, sought employment at courts and in princely cities. Giulio Romano went to Mantua, built a town and a palace, and adorned them with his 'Battle of the Gods and Giants.' Others roamed into the North, received its barbaric inspiration, and for the monstrous empire of Ivan the Terrible constructed the Kremlin. Of those who took refuge in France, the King employed the most skilful at Fontainebleau. In adorning the sanctuary of his Picardian favourite, however—a shrine of fantastic sculpture and warm and delicate painting—only the Frenchman, Jean Goujon, was engaged.

From these selections it will have been inferred that M. Michelet blends a variety of elements in his dramatic narration. The reform of the public theory of religion proceeded amidst the distractions of war, of political intrigues, and exciting personal adventure. The historian, while he states the ecclesiastical question, and pursues the course of those moral agencies which cleared the path of the Reformation, prefers to dwell on picturesque details, on portraits of kings, queens, generals, on rich natural prospects, on the creations of Art and power, on subtle and mystic fancies. His new volume is therefore to be valued, less as a formal view of the Reformation than as a cluster of brilliant illustrations, exhibiting with panoramic breadth and clearness the result of the War of the Churches on France, and on Europe generally.

#### CHRISTMAS BOOKS FOR CHILDREN.

Messrs. Grant & Griffith seem to have taken upon themselves a peculiar care for the literary edification of the young. On our table lies a pile of pretty things—charming little stories, charmingly illustrated—in very convenient forms, and in very gay bindings. In fact, here is a perfect treasury of good things for the Christmas parlour and the merry school-room. First of all, in compliment to the story-teller, as well as in justice to the story, we must notice Miss Geraldine Jewsbury's *Angelo; or, the Pine Forest in the Alps*. With Illustrations by John Absolon. Miss Jewsbury is usually set down as a strong-minded lady, who loves to deal with great passions, and shake the nerves of grown-up people; but in this Alpine story she has proved herself as simple and tender-hearted as any lavender-water lady in the land. She has a sad and pretty tale to tell, and she tells it so sweetly and so lovingly, that she must enlist the sympathies of her readers in the cause of the neglected Angelo, and excite their curiosity in his after-career,—a career of wonder and interest for children. So much for the story: of the book we may say, the type is large and clear, the binding bright and substantial. Altogether such a book as 'Angelo' ought to be an acceptable gift to the eager little people who gather round the Christmas-tree.



*The Mountain Land; or, Tales of the Vaudois*, by the Author of 'Sunlight through the Mist,' &c., with Frontispiece by John Gilbert, is an abridged history of the brave and simple inhabitants of the Vaudois valleys,—of their sufferings and persecutions,—which has been turned into language simple and earnest, such as may best appeal to young readers. Many will read this book for its story; and at the end of the work will find that they have acquired a good deal of historical information from its exciting pages. The writer has followed the fortunes of the Vaudois from the date of the Decree of the Council of Nice to the present time,—briefly mentioning Claude of Turin, Waldo, Varille, Gilles, Granavello, Graheri,—showing the perfidy of the Duke of Savoy, the enmity of the Pope and the consequent massacres of the Vaudois population by the French and Piedmontese troops, the protection afforded to them by Cromwell; and, finally, she gives a description of the state of the Mountain Church in the nineteenth century, with a sketch of Neff's unwearied and successful efforts towards the improvement of these people's condition, together with an account of the New Constitution granted by Carlo Alberto. We recommend this book as a useful present.

*Blades and Flowers: Poems for Children*, by M. S. C., with Frontispiece by H. Anelay, is a volume less to our mind. We cannot say much in praise of "Poems" which are neither poetical nor musical. It is a great mistake to suppose that mean and poor writing will do for children. Simple it must be, but if it be wanting in poetical feeling, the little lovers of rhyme will not care for it. Children are keener critics than is sometimes imagined, for they reflect more on the meaning of the words and demand softer lines than ears more accustomed to the grinding of wheels sometimes care about.

*Caw, Caw; or, the Chronicle of the Crows: a Tale of the Spring Time*, by R. M., illustrated by J. B., is an amusing book, and will charm the nursery lovers of pictures. There is much diversity in the illustrations of these noisy, black fellows. We have crows roving, crows sitting, crows hatching, crows flying, and crows dying,—in fact, crows in every conceivable form and position, not even excepting crows in a pie,—round which dainty dish the farmer's children are screaming and dancing with delight.

*The Talking-Bird; or, the Little Girl who knew what was going to happen*, by Mary and Elizabeth Kirby, with illustrations by Habet K. Browne.—The story is ingeniously told, and its moral is clearly shown. The tale turns upon the desire of a child to know what is about to happen, and this desire is gratified by the gift of a Talking-Bird, which tells her all she wishes to know, whereupon she gets into sad scrapes from not being able to keep her secret, which scrapes and annoyances so completely disgust her with forbidden knowledge, that in utter despair she lets the bird fly away, on which she recovers her spirits and gaiety, and resolves never again to wish to pry into futurity.

*Tales of Magic and Meaning*, Written and Illustrated by Alfred Crowquill, is also a capital little book. Though we admire Fairy Tales in general, we must say that we admire these Fairy Tales in particular. They are cleverly written, abound in frolic and in pathos, and are so free from dubious language and sentiments, and inculcate so pure a moral that we must pronounce him a very fortunate little fellow who catches these 'Tales of Magic' as a windfall from the Christmas-tree.

#### YEAR-BOOKS.

THE Almanacs are come:—signs of the waning year. Their calendars, their tabular lists, their serious figures and eccentric prophecies, belong to 1856. The red and yellow daubs of *Raphael* announce to silly readers the deaths and disasters, the prodigies and treasons of a new campaign. *Punch* salutes the coming year, and flings his Parthian satire at the past, at round hate, and at gentlemen long-coated after their majority.

The most bulky—and the best—of the almanacs

is *The British*, published by the Society for the Diffusion of Useful Knowledge (Knight & Co.)—With its *Companion*, it contains a mass of necessary information, set forth plainly and readably. The almanac itself presents the usual details on the seasons, eclipses, tides, terms, holidays, and anniversaries of 1856; with the calendar, register of Parliament, lists of Church dignitaries, public institutions, courts of law, clubs and assurance offices. The 'Companion' affords a summary, brought up to the latest day, of the carriage laws, of agricultural statistics, of fluctuations in the funds and in the corn-market, and of the arrangements of the civil service. To this is appended, an abstract of the last session's legislation, a chronicle of general occurrences, and of the campaign, and a review of public improvements. In London, the writer observes, little has been done. In the suburbs, house-building has been slack; in the town itself no new street-lines have been traced. Of the New Reading-Room at the British Museum encouraging progress is reported. The chief advance, however, has been in sanitary works, practically, and in the discussion of questions tending to promote the Art idea.

*The War Almanac* (Clarke & Co.) touches the salient subject of the day. The cover bristles with guns, bayonets, and lances,—the frontispiece is a tumultuous sketch of the last fight before Sebastopol,—the calendar for every month is headed by an illustration of the Baltic or Black-Sea campaigns,—and dotted with the dates of battles by land and sea. Its memoranda of the War confers on this almanac a special utility.

It has a rival, however—*The Army and Militia Almanac*, edited by Mr. J. H. Stoequeler (Webster & Co.)—This has no illustrations, and is altogether on a more solid and sober plan. The historical summary is brief, and confined to the display of facts; but the revelations of the military profession are succinctly described. On all matters connected with pay, promotion, pensions, the working of the military system, and other points of interest to military men, this almanac may be consulted. It is slight, but careful and complete.

*Parker's Church Calendar* does for the ecclesiastical what Mr. Stoequeler does for the military profession. We learn from this publication that Charles the First is still among the "martyrs" of the Church.

*Raphael's Prophetic Almanac* appeals, in another fashion, to classes that have made no progress since the witch-burning age. Its letter-press and its hieroglyphic are grotesquely stupid.

Pleasant—as a contrast, especially—is the re-appearance of *Punch's Pocket-Book*, blending the useful and the sweet, severely lively and harmlessly severe. It contains the nominal substance of almanacs, and, in addition, the woodcut satires of Leech and Tenniel. The illustrations for 1856 are in the nature of historical cartoons,—Egbert, Cromwell, and Elizabeth figuring in them. Of course in "Part II." we have the frolic prose and rhyme of *Punch*,—ballad and tale, moral and monogram. Mr. *Punch* thus illustrates his idea of philosophical simplicity:—

Stupid, silly, little fly,  
As upon the wall you walk,  
Let us have some quiet talk,  
Who are you and who am I?  
What is man and what are flies?  
If perchance you'd be as free,  
If philosophy could tell,  
Though the answer might surprise.  
—Come, Philosophy profound!  
Fly! approach in converse free;  
Where's the Fly? Alas, I see,  
Tumbled in the milk-jug! Drowned!

One of the best of these annual calendars is *The Household Words Almanac*,—a new venture, we think, and one on a very good plan. A peculiarity in its plan is that it describes, at the bottom of the running calendar, a variety of events that happened in the same month "a hundred years ago." Contrasts of manners and laws are selected to mark the social progress of the nation. As "serviceable information" a good many general facts are added to the customary materials of an almanac. This Almanac should find a place in every cottage.

*Dietrichsen & Hannay's Royal Almanac* resembles, in some respects the 'British,' particularly in its minuteness and elaboration.

Addressed to special classes we have Mr. J. C. Morton's *New Farmer's Almanac*, Messrs. Johnson and Shaw's *Farmer's Almanac and Calendar*, both full of matter interesting to agriculturists,—and Glenny's *Garden Almanac and Florist's Directory*, principally for the use of amateurs. This last is full of Christmas auguries, of red berries and holly, which blooms while rose-roots are covered with straw, and heartsease and pinks are in their winter beds.

For the boudoir there is *Fulcher's Ladies' Memorandum Book and Poetical Miscellany*, with a sentimental illustration of the War, some pretty pictures, a well-told tale by Mrs. Gaskell, a genial and touching story by Miss Frances Brown, and a number of poetical miscellanies, good and bad.

#### OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

*Passages from the Private and Official Life of the late Alderman Kelly; with Extracts from his Correspondence*. By the Rev. R. C. Fell. (Groombridge & Sons.)—A useful, valuable, and interesting book might have been made with such a life as Alderman Kelly's for subject; and this without any of that old-fashioned deification of the Golden Calf, which, under pretext of inculcating poetical justice, gave so false a moral to many of our old comedies and novels. To promise the industrious apprentice rapid advancement and enormous profits so soon as he sets up on his own account—to hold out to the pious son of peasant parents the gold chain and mace-bearers of "London's great Lord Mayor" as rewards, which in his riper years shall crown his piety with honour in the sight of men—is teaching of the worst order; an apotheosis of that virtue which does right, in order that it may get money and a mayoralty. There is a talent for success totally independent of great intellect, good heart, resolute industry; and to preach that this is common to all, is to say that every singing woman may become a Pasta, and every writing man a Walter Scott. There are figures born for the background of the picture; but it by no means follows that these figures shall be its meanest and least important portions; on the contrary, as connecting and harmonizing links, they may be indispensable. Such being our view of the spirit in which popular biography should be written—such being our admission that heroism does not inevitably imply conquest—we shall not be suspected of a disposition to revive the dame-school lessons derived from the old City legend of Whittington and his Cat, if we say that a City-life of Alderman Kelly might have been made something far better than the dull and harmless production before us. That he was a peasant's son—that he was a bookseller's shopman—that he made a rapid and enormous fortune by working out the plan of publishing safe and serious books in parts, accompanying this by itinerant canvassing and salesmanship—that he was amiable and conscientious—that he rose to high influence and office in the City of London, and died in the course of this year at a very advanced age—are pretty nearly all the facts that the Rev. Mr. Fell's volume communicates to us. There is no attempt at portraiture of manners or usages, no illustration of the career of a London tradesman successful in a peculiar branch of trade, by anecdotes.—We gather, however, that much of the work was written under Alderman Kelly's own direction. It is possible that he may have been reluctant to lighten up the record of his life by the introduction of such traits and tales of London apprenticeship and country pedlarship as we, at least, should have been glad to meet.

*Doctor Antonio: a Tale*. By the Author of 'Lorenzo Benoni,' (Edinburgh, Constable & Co.)—*The Same*. (Paris, Galignani.)—This book is superior as a work of interest to its predecessor. Constructed after the manner of Manzoni, there are certain lengthy details which might have been compressed,—but the true and touching interest of the story would carry a reader through a much heavier medium; indeed, except that they interrupt the flow of the narrative, the details

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are not devoid of an interest of their own,—and will be read on a second perusal, if skipped in the pardonable impatience of wishing, first, to know how everything ends between Doctor Antonio and Lucy, who is one of the most charming impersonations of an English girl we have met with in the course of many novels. The outline of the story is simple; it derives its charm from the grace and delicacy with which the details are filled in, and the strong individuality impressed upon every point of character, scenery, or incident. The character of Sir John Davenne is an admirable little bit of comedy, and there is a dash of genuine graceful fun about it, that could scarcely have been given on an English point of view. The gradual melting away of all the dear, proud, stiff old baronet's prejudices, and the consequent fair play that is given to his best qualities, and his gradual conversion to his daughter's faith in Doctor Antonio, is charming,—and so is the happy pastoral life they all lead during Lucy's convalescence. As to the sudden manner in which it is brought to a close by the arrival of her brother, we might say that it is the setting-in of an east wind and a blighting frost, in the midst of a soft spring day, only that would be a common-place simile. After that point the story grows too sorrowful; the events narrated are true, and cannot on closing the book be forgotten or set aside as "highly-wrought incidents in a novel." The interest that began in the simple overturn of a carriage and the consequent detention of the party at a small *osteria* in Sicily, darkens and complicates into the political tragedy of the 15th of May 1848. The picture of the state of things,—the trial of the prisoners, given in all the naked detail of an official report,—makes the concluding pages of the story too painful for the ephemeral interest of a work of fiction,—and as a matter of Art a novel has no business to wind up with a lengthened police report. We suppose the author does not mind sacrificing his credit as a novelist to have the opportunity of keeping alive in the memory of English readers the details of events which, heard imperfectly at the time, may have become somewhat obscure and obliterated. We cannot dismiss 'Doctor Antonio' without a word upon the pure and flexible style in which it is written;—the English is excellent, and stands upon its own merits, but when it is recollected that it is the English of a foreigner it becomes wonderful.

*Simplicity and Fascination; or, Guardians and Wards.* By Anne Beale. 3 vols. (Bentley.)—The only foolish thing in this novel is its title, which is certainly enough to deter any but an adventurous reader from its pages: those who begin will, however, find their virtue rewarded by as pleasant a novel as they would wish to read on a winter's day. It is a well-drawn picture of English domestic life; the characters are well contrasted, and the situations and incidents are interesting. Aunt Betsy and Uncle Timothy are our favourites; Jessie, the mother-sister to her family, is charming,—which is saying no little for a model heroine. The book ends happily, which is always pleasant; and a misanthrope must have hopes of a world where so many happy marriages can take root and flourish. There are as many couples as in an English country-dance; and although the figure is a little complicated, yet the right partners find each other at last, and everybody marries precisely the right person. If the candid reader had been consulted ever so much he could not have arranged matters more to the contentment of everybody concerned.

*The Faces in the Fire; The Shadows on the Wall; with other Tales and Sketches.* By James Frederick Pardon. (Blackwood.)—In the Preface, the author tells us that 'Faces in the Fire' appeared in 1849, "when its success was undeniable, a large edition having been exhausted in ten days." If this fact repeats itself criticism will be superfluous. The author also deprecates any imitation of the Christmas stories of Mr. Charles Dickens. 'Shadows on the Wall' turns upon a miser seeing himself and his own life in a species of moral magic-lantern, which takes so good an effect that he is converted in a single night from an old curmudgeon into the most generous of men. Whether

this story would ever have existed without an antecedent Christmas Carol—wherein an old miser is converted under much the same supernatural treatment—we will not say; only in this as in other cases the laws of primogeniture must take their course, and 'Shadows on the Wall' can claim only a younger brother's share of originality. Our own private opinion is, that neither of those misers could have survived the shock to his constitution which the sudden change from getting to giving would have occasioned.

*Adventures of my Cousin Smooth; or, the Little Quibbles of Great Governments.* By Timothy Simpleton. (New York, Miller & Co.; London, Tweedie.)—As far as we can make out, this is a Yankee satire upon the politics of President Pierce, and upon the wisdom with which the world is governed. A prisoner, condemned to a term of hard labour, would find that to read this book was a good instalment of his sentence; but the endurance of human nature would give way in the effort. How any one could write it, is only one degree less wonderful than how any one could read it.

The War continues to bring forth its miscellanies, the works of patriotic writers. *Honour about Cronstadt?* is a weak effusion, of which it is enough to say that the author talks about Napoleon the Third being "master of the heart of Queen Victoria."—"Vigilantia," in *The Siege and its Probable Sequence*, guesses shrewdly at some of the probabilities of the future, and indicates the dangers of the French alliance.—Blanche Shakespeare de Trepla, in *To be or not to be*, appeals, in verse, to Lord Palmerston in behalf of the Poles.—"A Barrister" appeals to the Poles themselves and to the Allied Governments in *The Independence of Poland*.—The absurd charges recently preferred against M. Mazzini are disposed of, by Mr. J. A. Langford, in *Kossuth, Mazzini, Urquhart, and the Conference*.—"Tracts for the Present Crisis" include, *What are we Fighting for?—Re-appearance of the Boy Jones*,—*Leading Articles on Magisterial Oppression*,—and *At whose Expense are we Fighting?* All these are written from a peace point of view.—The Rev. J. Sowter, in *A Thanksgiving Sermon*, approves the war, as does the Rev. B. Street in *The Defenced City made a Ruin*, a sermon preached at Grantham.—Questions that have risen out of the War are discussed in *A Few Words to Young Men about Administrative Reform*, by "A Member of the Committee,"—*A Petition to the House of Commons, embodying the Immediate Requirements for Administrative Reform*,—*Four Letters on the Admiral, the First Lord, and Anglo-Carthaginians*,—and *Administrative Reformers, what have they done?* a clever letter, addressed to Mr. Morley.—*The Report on the Examination for Appointments in the Royal Artillery and Engineers, with Copies of the Examination Reports*,—and *Three Letters on Military Education*, by "Jacob Omnium" may be added to the list.

## LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

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## LONGFELLOW'S 'HIAWATHA.'

The measure which Longfellow has adopted—rhymeless trochaic dimeter,—though possessing the same number of feet as the lines in the 'Kalevala,' is by no means "the old national metre of Finland." That, like the Icelandic and Anglo-Saxon metrical systems, is distinguished by its recognition of alliteration as an essential attribute of musical verse. All the lines in the 'Kalevala' (with a few exceptions, doubtless corrupt readings) have two, and often three, accented syllables beginning with the same letter. For instance:—

Tuolta ennen pulmat puuttui,  
Tuolta taikant täpähdi,  
Tietomiesten tienohilla,  
Laulumiesten laulimilla,  
Konnien koti-sioltia,  
Taikurien tannerilla,  
Tuolta Kalman kankahilla,  
Maasta maatterien siosta,  
Mielen kuolteen kielista,  
Kaonhehen karianosta, &c.

'Kalevala,' 2nd edit. rune 17, vv. 189—190.

—Which is, being interpreted by means of Herr Schiefner's translation,—

Harshly thence did Hurt come forward,  
Thence came forth the Harm of magic,  
From the mighty wizards' circle,  
From beside the skilled in singing,  
From the seat of evil spirits,  
From the fields of those that soothsay,  
From the plain where dwells the Death-god,  
From the subterranean regions,  
From the dead man's dreary dwelling,  
From the home of the Departed.

Alliteration, as Coleridge somewhere observes, is nothing but rhyme at the beginnings of words instead of the ends; and Mr. Longfellow, in his unalliterated trochaics, may with as little reason be said to imitate the metre of the 'Kalevala,' as Philaethes, in his rhymeless iambic trimeter catalectic version of the 'Divina Commedia,' can be asserted to represent the music of Dante.

It is possible that the American poet may have been led to select his new metre from its employment by the late Mathias Alexander Castrén in the Swedish, and by Anton Schiefner in the German, translation of the 'Kalevala.' But rhymeless trochaic dimeter is commonly used throughout Europe. In German, besides this version of Schiefner's, we have Dr. Boltz's excellent translation of the old Russian poem of Igor's 'Expedition against the Polovtsi,' lilting along in the manner of 'Hiawatha.' In Bohemian ballad-poetry the rhymeless trochaic dimeter, as well as a measure of three trochees, is found occasionally. The lay, for instance, of 'Ludise a Lubor' (*Queen's Court MS.*, Prague, 1820) begins thus:—

Znamenite staří, mladi,  
O pótkač i o siediáni.  
Biesse drubhy kniez Zalabáky  
Knlez slavný, bohátý, dobrý,  
Ten imiesce deer jedinu, &c.—Str. 108.

Old and young, give ear and listen!  
I will sing of fights and tourneys.  
Dwelt a noble by the Elbe-stream,  
Rich and good and highly honoured,  
And he had an only daughter.

This metre is also very common in the Serbian *shenske pjesme*, or female songs, many of which have been admirably imitated in German by Taly, Gerhardt, and Kapper. And, turning to the Romance languages, what reader of the Spanish dramatic poetry can be ignorant of the frequency of its employment by Calderon and Lope de Vega?

To conclude:—Mr. Howitt's book on the 'Literature and Romance of Northern Europe,' of which mention is made in his letter, may, perhaps, be as valuable as a work of the sort can be when written by a person apparently ignorant of Icelandic, Færoic, and the Norwegian dialects; but Mr. Howitt is certainly not to be relied on in matters of Finnish mythology. Wäinämöinen never sings



of Kaleva, "the great ancestor of all Finnish warriors," for the simple reason that no such personage was believed in by the ancient Finns,—'kaleva' meaning heroic, and being cognate with the Turkish 'Alepe,' hero (see Castrén's *Finnische Mythologie*, St. Petersburg, 1853). And Väinämöinen is not "the Finnish," nor any other, "Apollo," but one of the triad of Finnish heroes (the other two being Ilmarinen and Lemminkäinen), and as much renowned in the runes for his valour, wisdom and necromantic powers as he is for his skill in song and music.

W. S.

## OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

Mr. Moxon desires us to publish the following note, together with its inclosure, which ought to close (so far as we are concerned) the controversy between the sculptor and the Committee of the Campbell Monument.—

Sir,—I beg to hand you a copy of the order given by me and my co-executor, to Messrs. Coutts & Co. for payment of the balance of the "Campbell Monument" fund to the sculptor, Mr. W. C. Marshall, R.A. Wm. Moxon.  
Lincoln's Inn, Nov. 23, 1855.

"London, Nov. 23, 1855.

## "The Campbell Monument.

"The Dean and Chapter of Westminster having given up their claim; and no further claims having been made against the Campbell Monument Fund; and all expenses of the pedestal having been paid for the artist by an act of private liberality, the balance which was as Executors of the poet and as two of the members of the Committee deemed it prudent to reserve for the protection of the Committee, under existing circumstances, may now be paid over to the sculptor, Mr. W. C. Marshall, R.A.—Wm. Moxon, M.D., Wm. Moxon."

"To Messrs. Coutts &amp; Co., Strand."

—From the inclosure, it will be seen that Mr. Marshall will not have to pay for the pedestal, as he feared, and that no further check will be placed on his power to withdraw the balance in Messrs. Coutts's hands. Here the matter may fairly end. The several explanations have brought the question to the point at which we introduced it:—the nation has received from Mr. Marshall, as we originally complained, a monument to one of its popular favourites without paying for it a fair price. But we do not see that blame rests anywhere, save in the unconquerable apathy of the public. The Committee seem to have striven honestly and zealously to raise a fund; the artist wrought in the spirit of a martyr: but the world would not respond to the appeal. It is an unpleasant affair,—unpleasant for all parties, but most of all so, we conceive, for Mr. Marshall. Yet we see no help for it. He took the commission on his firm belief that the public would respond to the appeal of a Committee so respectable; the Committee, as we said at first, gave him no assurance beyond that which he very reasonably drew for himself from the announcement of a list of names so powerful and so respectable; and this failing, he has no complaint, which, in our opinion, can be sustained against the Committee as to the broad principle and general understanding of his engagement to execute the Campbell Monument. His complaint lies against the public.

A first meeting of the members of the London and Middlesex Archeological Society is announced to be held at Crosby Hall,—a very appropriate locality,—on Tuesday, the 11th of December, on which occasion the rules of the Society will be adopted, and the council and office-bearers will be named. Lord Londesborough, President of the Society, will occupy the chair.

Our readers will hear with satisfaction that the crowning act of reparation has at length been made to Mr. Barber, the solicitor, in his re-admission to the legal practice of his profession. "Justice is lame as well as blind," but in this extraordinary and romantic case, she has overtaken Time, and has repaired in some degree the terrible wrong which had been committed in her name. We congratulate Mr. Barber—of whose innocence we never had the shadow of a doubt—as our readers know very well,—on this issue from his severe trial, and we congratulate the country still more warmly on this new proof that, faulty as our laws, and as all human tribunals are, there is always a future of atonement and reparation for those who are content to appeal calmly and with patience to the better judgments of mankind. In Mr. Barber's person an infallible

public instinct has overruled the false decisions of a fallible law.

The Committee appointed to raise a fund on behalf of the Manchester minstrel, Mr. Rogerson, has published its balance-sheet, from which we learn that the sum raised for the sick poet amounts to 488l.

A Correspondent (E. G. R.) writes:—"Allow me to ask a question about the new edition of Halliwell's 'Archaic and Provincial Dictionary.' Is it a new edition with additional matter and improvements, or a reprint, or the old work with a new title-page? When the first edition was published, the *Athenæum* recommended its readers to interleave it and make additions. I have done this, and should have been happy to have sent my additions and corrections for the new edition, had I been aware that such a thing was in progress. It is only by the contributions of very many persons who pay attention to these studies that such a work can ever be made perfect."—We do not know whether our Correspondent's offer is too late for use.

The death of M. Molé claims a word of record at our hands—though he was much better known as a man of State than as a man of Letters. His first work, 'Essais de Morale et de Politique,' brought him into the service of the first Napoleon, and his flexibility enabled him to serve all the men who in turn became masters of France, until age dulled his powers. He was made a peer of France during the Hundred Days, became Minister under Louis XVIII., and after the downfall of the elder branch of the Bourbons was equally zealous in the service of Louis-Philippe.

We must also notice the death of James Hardiman, author of the well-known 'History of Galway,' which remains a monument of patient research. Mr. Hardiman also published the 'Bardic Remains of Ireland,' with notes full of interesting matter and research, and a translation of 'The Statutes of Kilkenny.' His last work was a translation of O'Flaherty's 'History of Jar Connaught,' and was published by the Archeological Society. On the establishment of the Queen's Colleges in 1849, he was appointed to the office of librarian,—a post which he continued to fill up to the time of his death.

Mr. Carlyle's complaint of the dearth of good collections of historical portraits has stirred up many minds to the consideration of how such a defect, so far as regards our own country, may be remedied. One writer (W. B. S.) says:—

Allow me a few words in reference to your quotation from Mr. Carlyle on Historical Portrait Galleries, and *en queue* with your Correspondent C. W. R., who pointed out the Portrait Room in the Ambros Museum at Vienna as one collection of the kind. Allow me to remind him that there is one nearer home. Part 8 of the Guide Book of the British Museum (which is, or used to be, sold in the Hall) is a Catalogue of "Portraits." These have become public property along with the Cottonian Library, having been presented by Dr. Gifford in 1758, or otherwise acquired, and form a most interesting series, covering the upper walls of the Zoological Galleries, numbering, with some elsewhere located, about 150, most of them of certain authenticity and uncertain excellence. This is a small matter compared to what a Historical Portrait Gallery should be, but it is a worthy nucleus if the new management of the National Gallery were to consider such an enterprise as within their sphere, and bring together public possessions of this kind from Hampton Court and elsewhere. The English public would doubtless thank them more for so doing than for adding to their stock of "flayings of Bartholomew, flayings of Maryas, rapes of the Sabines." It is a curious question how far pictures in public galleries should be exhibited only for artistic or executive qualities, or in spite of the falsehoods they may convey, their moral or theological hallucinations, the no meaning or tainted meaning they may express. At all events, admitting the wide difference between pictures as fine art and pictures as documents, such portraits as stand criticism in both points of view would seem the most understandable and valuable pictures for the public eye.

In connexion with the same topic, another writer (G. D. T.) says, "I think that Earl Stanhope, then Lord Mahon, made some inquiry in the House of Commons, of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, as to whether such a matter had been thought of, at the same time advocating it very forcibly; and, as far as I recollect, the answer was, 'that it had been under consideration and should not be forgotten, but must be postponed for the present.' This, I believe, was during Lord Derby's last Administration. It has ever appeared strange that in this country, which has

always been noted for its patronage of portraiture, there should not be such a collection; and one cannot help thinking that it merely requires a commencement, few nations possessing such large private collections as there are in England."

It is stated in the Austrian papers that a Great Exhibition will be held in Vienna next year—in imitation of the gatherings in London and Paris. We are not aware that any definite programme has yet been adopted: and it is possible that the desire of the Viennese to share in the profits and the credit of a gathering of all nations may be the only real fact lying beneath the usual rumour. Meanwhile the local papers are busy with the discussion as to an available site: the Frater—the Bois de Boulogne of Vienna—being first favourite. A capitalist is said to have offered to erect a suitable edifice at his own expense, if the Government will grant sufficient space in the glacis, leaving it afterwards as a place of public amusement.

The new work of Dr. David Friedrich Strauss [*ante*, p. 708] has appeared. It is entitled 'Leben und Schriften des Dichters und Philologen Nicodemus Frischlin: Ein Beitrag zur deutschen Kulturgeschichte in der zweiten Hälfte des 16 Jahrhunderts,'—and is founded on nearly 800 documents from the Crown records of Würtemberg. The University of Tübingen, of which Frischlin, in his time, was a conspicuous ornament, has furnished Dr. Strauss with documents and other important contributions.

Michael Vörösmarty, one of the greatest Hungarian poets of the present century, died, on the 19th of November, at Pesth, only fifty-five years of age. An article, full of praise and regret, is dedicated to his memory by the *Pesth-Ofen Gazette*. In the last year of his life, Vörösmarty had made it his task to translate the works of Shakspeare.

A Correspondent writes from Florence:—"In the report of the meeting at which the city of London decided—constructively—that they 'never knew no good come of book learning,' it was stated by one of the speakers that at Florence there existed in public libraries 370 volumes to every 100 inhabitants. This is far from being the case. There are four public libraries in Florence, which contain about 258,000 volumes, while the population is about 110,000. The Magliabecchian Library contains 150,000 volumes; the Marucellian, 80,000; the Riccardi, 20,000; and that of the Academy, 8,000. These collections are open to the public on an average about twenty hours a week. No book can be taken out of them under any circumstances. And the vast majority of the works they contain are obsolete, or useful only to the erudite and curious. The celebrated Laurentian Library contains only MSS., and is serviceable only to the same classes."

MM. Lorieux and Eugène de Fourcy are preparing for publication, in seventeen large maps, an Atlas of subterranean Paris. It is well known that a great (say the tenth) part of the French metropolis and its environs (namely, the *communes* of Vaugirard, Montrouge, and Gentilly) rests on an immense and intricate system of quarries and excavations, which, from the first century of the Christian era down to the seventeenth century have furnished Paris and its neighbourhood with building materials. The extent of these excavations (of which the celebrated *catacombs* form only a very small part) was hardly known during the eighteenth century, and still less was it suspected that they could become dangerous to the streets and houses above them, until, in 1774 and 1777, the sinking down of a number of buildings in the vicinity of the Boulevard Neuf and the Barrière d'Enfer (one house, among others, was buried in an abyss of eighty feet depth) drew the attention of the public to the alarming fact. Since then, up to this very day, uninterrupted even by the political revolutions of France, examinations and labours of all kind have been set on foot at the expense of the city of Paris in order to prevent further accidents. The whole of this cavernous maze has been explored in every direction, the streets and roads running above have been ascertained, and props, pillars, supports and buttresses have been erected wherever they seemed necessary, so that, at present, it appears, the Parisians may

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deep in quiet. At least, one is led to this conclusion by the fact, that the annual expenses for the works, which, in former years reached the average amount of 100,000 francs, have been reduced, for the present year, to 5,000 francs. The Atlas of MM. Lorieux and De Fourcy will be, at all events, a most useful and interesting addition to our knowledge of Paris.

"*Après* of your remarks on a German work on the Hamiltonian system in the last two *Athenæums*," says a Correspondent, "let me call your attention to the difficulty of procuring works on this plan in Dutch, Swedish and Danish. To that numerous class of persons, who cultivate some acquaintance with these languages, not to speak them so much as for philological purposes, it would be a great assistance if the same work could be published in all the Teutonic and Scandinavian languages—with an exact interlinear translation—and with some foot notes to point out obsolete or provincial words of the same derivation. Suppose the German word *women*, to dwell—a note might state that there was an English word now obsolete, *won*, to dwell, Anglo-Saxon *wisman*, Dutch *women*, &c. I have been obliged to use the New Testament for this purpose, but there are several objections very obvious to this use of it. If at any time it would pay to produce a Hamiltonian translation of Danish or Swedish works, surely now—when we expect in a few months to have the co-operation of those nations—is the time. I would suggest some work of H. C. Andersen which has been translated into all these languages for the experiment, but should be very glad to have any other equally well adapted to the end in view."

Will Close on the 15th inst.

FIFTH SEASON.—THE WINTER EXHIBITION OF PICTURES, Sketches, and Water-Colour Drawings of the British School, including a Complete Collection of all the Engraved Works after Sir Edwin Landseer, R.A., IS NOW OPEN for the Season, at the Gallery, 121, Pall Mall, from 10 till 5 o'clock.—Admission, 1s. Catalogues, 6d.

EXHIBITION OF CRIMEAN PHOTOGRAPHS, 5, Pall Mall East.—EVENING EXHIBITION from 7 till 10, and from 10 till 5 daily. Admission, 1s.—In Foggy Weather the Gallery is brilliantly lighted with Gas.

ROYAL GALLERY OF ILLUSTRATION, 14, Regent Street.—THE GREAT VICTORY at SEBASTOPOL is now added to the DIORAMA of the "EVENTS of the WAR," including the Capture of the Malakoff, Attack on the Redan, Destruction of the Shipping, and Burning of Sebastopol. The Lecture by Mr. Stocquer. Daily at Three and Eight.—Admission, 1s., 2s., and 3s.

MONT BLANC WILL OPEN ON MONDAY EVENING, December 3.—EGYPTIAN HALL, PICCADILLY.

CRIMEAN MUSEUM at the GREAT GLOBE, Leicester Square.—Russian Arms, Pictures, Costumes, &c. from Sevastopol, Kerch, Balaklava, &c. taken by the Allied Armies.

MODEL of the SIEGE of SEBASTOPOL.—The Model of the Earth, Leicester Square, at 10 o'clock. One shilling. Children and School, Half-price. Open from 10 A.M. to 10 P.M.

ROYAL LYCEUM THEATRE.—LAST WEEK BUT ONE.—Revision of Programmes for MONDAY NEXT, December 3, being the 52nd Representation of the extraordinary successful Spectacle of MAGIC and MYSTERY, by Professor ANDERSON. These who have not been, should hasten at once. Professor Anderson begs to announce his 100th Representation on Tuesday, December 11, on which occasion the Wizard will have the pleasure of producing something more astonishing than he has yet accomplished. Doors open each Evening at Half-past Seven; commence at Eight. Private Boxes, 12 1/2s. and 12 1/2s. can be obtained at the Box-office, or at the principal Libraries; Stalls, 4s.; Dress Circle, 3s.; Upper Boxes, 2s.; P.R., 1s.; Gallery, 6d. The Box-office is open daily from 11 till 5, under the direction of Mr. Chatterton, Jun.—Grand Fashionable Morning Performance on Saturday, December 3, at Two o'clock. Doors open at Half-past One. Professor ANDERSON has been respectfully to announce the positive termination of his Magical Performances in consequence of the great preparations for his Spectacle and Pantomime at Covent Garden Theatre.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC.—UNCEASING NOVELTIES! LECTURE by J. H. PIPER, Esq., on the ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH, CHEMISTRY, POTTERY, and the New Metal, ALUMINIUM. NEW DISSOLVING VIEWS, and Dissections, by Mr. R. L. D., of the FINEST of ADIES' HEAD-DRESSES. NEW VIEWS of the WAR. Curious Photographs of the BLOOD GLOBULES, and Views of PARIS in the MICROSCOPE. THE UNRIVALLED COLLECTION of BIRDS in the New Room.

## SCIENTIFIC

### SOCIETIES.

ROYAL.—Nov. 30.—*Anniversary Meeting*.—The Lord Wrottesley, President, in the chair.—His Lordship delivered his annual address,—after which the Copley Medal was presented to M. Foucault and the Royal Medals to Mr. Hind and Mr. Westwood.—The following noblemen and gentlemen were then elected officers of council for the ensuing year:—*President*, The Lord Wrottesley, M.A.; *Treasurer*, Col. E. Sabine, R.A.; *Secretaries*, W. Sharpey, M.D., and G. G. Stokes, Esq. M.A.; *Foreign Secretary*, Rear-Admiral W. H. Smyth;

*Other Members of the Council*, The Duke of Argyll, Neil Arnott, M.D., Rear-Admiral F. W. Beechey, Sir Benjamin Brodie, Bart., W. B. Carpenter, M.D., A. Cayley, Esq., Rev. J. Challis, M.A., C. Darwin, Esq., M.A., Sir Philip de M. Grey Egerton, Bart., W. Fairbairn, Esq., J. Miers, Esq., W. A. Miller, Esq., M.A., W. H. Miller, Esq., M.A., J. Paget, Esq., J. Stenhouse, LL.D., and Rev. R. Walker.—The Fellows whose names are printed in italics were not Members of the last Council.

GEOGRAPHICAL.—Nov. 26.—Sir R. I. Murchison in the chair.—G. Peabody, Esq., Capt. E. G. Fanshawe, R.N., Col. C. G. Fagan, Dr. Elliott, M.D., Capt. E. Palmer, R.A., the Rev. J. L. Porter, A.M., E. Cheshire, E. Gabriel, Her Majesty's Arbitrator at St. Paul de Loanda, G. F. Leslie, W. E. Shaw, R.N., W. Spottiswoode, Esq., G. Milnes Stephen, Esq., and J. Vasseuseur, Esq., were elected Fellows.—The papers read were:—'*Memoir on the Map of Damascus, Hauran, and the Mountains of Lebanon, constructed from Personal Survey*,' by the Rev. J. L. Porter, A.M.; communicated by J. Hogg, Esq., M.A.—'*Reports respecting Central Africa, as collected in Mambara, and on the East Coast, with a New Map of the Country*,' by the Rev. J. Erhardt; communicated by the Church Missionary Society.

ASIATIC.—Nov. 17.—Major-Gen. Sykes in the chair.—Sir F. Currie, Bart., Major-Gen. Brown, C.B., and Dr. Macleise, were admitted Members.—The Assistant Secretary read a paper by Capt. Ormsby, of the Indian Navy, upon the 'Epigraphs of the Nimrod Obelisk.'—It will be in the remembrance of those who have followed the course of Assyrian discovery, that Col. Rawlinson, six years ago, read at a meeting of the Society a translation of the inscription upon this obelisk, which was printed in the early part of the year 1850, detailing the expeditions undertaken by the King who erected the monument, during thirty-one years of his reign. Around the obelisk there were five series of sculptured figures, all representing processions of objects presented to the King by conquered potentates, as tributes of their submission to his power. In the translation above mentioned, Col. Rawlinson merely gave general notices of the articles thus presented, which consisted, as he said, of 'gold and silver, pearls and gems, ebony and ivory; perhaps also of rare woods, or aromatic gums, or metals; and of horses and camels, the latter being described as beasts of the desert with double backs.' The object of Capt. Ormsby's paper was to particularize the articles of tribute thereon represented; in doing which he availed himself of all that had been published when the translation of Col. Rawlinson appeared, and showed that he was an independent worker in the field of Assyrian research, with the laudable ambition to which we should be glad to see more learned men making a claim. The date of the obelisk is placed by Capt. Ormsby about the year 868 B.C.; the King having defeated Benhadad of Syria in his eleventh year, and Hazael in his sixteenth year, and having reigned sixteen years of that campaign, as recorded on the monument. He then proceeds to analyze the words contained in the epigraphs over each row of figures by philological arguments which need not be given here. The results of his reading give, as the translation of the first epigraph, the following words:—"The tribute received from Shena, King of Gozan, silver, gold, precious stones, bright copper vessels, horses for the king, camels, ivory." The second epigraph he reads:—"Tribute of Jehu, the son of Beth-Omri; silver and gold, gold vases for the ceremony of the Solstice, gold rings or seals, gold and pearls, brilliants, ointment, and oil of Sheba." Capt. Ormsby pronounces the features of the tribute-bearers on this row to be "graphically Jewish," thus corroborating the reading which ascribes the tribute to one of the kings of Israel. The third is, a "Tribute received from the foreign country—camels, ivory, elephants, apes, white bulls, rhinoceroses." The fourth:—"Tribute of Sutadan of Shekai—silver, gold, pearls, gold ingots, oil of Sheba: all choice articles of \* \* \*." The fifth, which closes Capt. Ormsby's paper, he reads:—

"Tribute of Barhagrada of the Shetni (the Cherethites of the Bible)—silver, gold, precious stones, copper ingots, copper cups, wood of Sheba."—The Chairman stated to the meeting that he had the pleasure to announce Col. Rawlinson's assent to give his valuable aid to the Society as Joint-Secretary with Mr. Clarke. It was not within the function of the Council to decide finally upon the appointment; but, as a provisional measure, and awaiting the vote of the anniversary meeting (of the result of which there could be no doubt) they had rejoiced at enlisting among their officers so efficient an orientalist and so successful a discoverer. This announcement was received with much gratification by the Meeting.

SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES.—Nov. 22.—Edward Hawkins, Esq., V.P. in the chair.—Miss Mary Grant, of Elchies, Morayshire, exhibited, by the hands of Dr. John Lee, a flint arrow-head, one of several found from time to time in Bamfshire. Its owner had mounted it with gold for suspension, a practice not sanctioned by the antiquary, although, as the Secretary observed, one of remote antiquity, as a flint arrow-head, mounted in a similar manner, and appended to an Etruscan necklace, is preserved in the British Museum.—Mr. B. Williams exhibited a Gaulish coin in electrum, found between Stevenston and the Farringdon Road.—Mr. Brodie exhibited some specimens of early knives, a ring, and a brass counter-seal found at Salisbury.—Mr. Hunter exhibited and read some remarks on a deed of Sir Thomas Swinford, relating to the villis of East Ferry and West Ferry in Lincolnshire.—The Secretary then read a communication from Mr. B. Williams 'On some Ancient Monuments in the County of Cumberland and its Borders,' illustrated by several drawings and sketches of remarkable remains.

HORTICULTURAL.—Nov. 20.—J. J. Blandy, Esq., in the chair.—Baroness L. de Rothschild, Sir R. Peel, Bart., W. H. Solly, Esq., S. Platt, Esq., J. Clough, Esq., Mr. J. Spencer, and Mr. A. Henderson were elected Fellows.—Subjects of exhibition were so numerous that not only was the meeting-room full, but the library, council-room and secretary's room, together with the passages leading to them were also filled with flowers and fruits, many of them of the most choice description, and all of them possessed of rare excellence. Of newly-introduced plants, that to which perhaps the most interest was attached, was the singular lace-like water plant from Madagascar, called *Ouvirandra fenestralis*, furnished by the Rev. Mr. Ellis.—Messrs. Veitch also showed a handsome *Eschynanthus*, called *fulgens*, a sort whose flower resembled *E. maculatus* or *grandiflorus*, but it was reported to be shrubby and upright in its growth, characteristics sufficient to distinguish it from the last-named kind.—From Mr. Bateman came out flowers of *Paphiognathis*, a handsomely spotted brown flowered Orchid from central America; and from Messrs. Rollison, of Tooting, came a pinnated shrub from Australia. *Sophrontis grandiflora*, in the shape of a single specimen, with five vermilion-coloured flowers on it, came from High Grounds, Hoddesdon. It was stated respecting this charming little plant that it is one of the hardiest of Orchids, being found growing wild on the branches of trees, in a climate where the grass about them is often covered with hoar frost.—From the Royal Gardens, Frogmore, were branches of an *Ageratum* from Texas, of the value of which little can be said at present, few of the flowers on the specimens shown being expanded.—From the Dowager-Duchess of Northumberland came *Nyctanthes arbor-tristis*, an East Indian plant now little cultivated, but still worth attention on account of its fragrance.—Of *Chrysanthemums* there was a glorious display, furnished by Mr. James, Mr. Doxat, Mr. McNeill, Mr. Foster, Mr. Bligh, and Mr. Salter.—Fruits were excellent and in great quantities, from the Speaker, from Mr. Sneyd, who sent them very fine branches of Old Tokay, weighing together ten and a quarter pounds.—From Mr. Hales, Mr. Shrimpton, Mr. Marcham, Capt. Smart, Mr. Nash, Mr. Clarke, the Duke of Norfolk, Mr. Clements, Mr.

Morris, Mr. Miller, Mr. Blandy, the Duke of Sutherland, Lady Charlotte Schreiber, Mr. Clark, from Roundway Park, Col. Wyndham, Capt. Lousada, the Duke of Bedford, Mr. Hope, Her Majesty the Queen, Mr. Akroyd, Lady Emily Foley, Lord Stourton, Mr. Dixon, Mr. Treeve, Mr. Abell, Mr. Coster, Mr. Salter, Lady Charles Wellesley, Lord Clarendon, Mr. Lidgard, Mr. Child, Mr. Ayres, Mr. Chilman, Mr. Dunsford, and Mr. Lancaster.—Miscellaneous subjects consisted of specimens of Fry's propagating and sea-kale pots, and a model pit from Mr. Lancaster. The latter was sent to exhibit a new kind of winter protection, called patent lignum textile. This material, which is that of which hat-boxes are made, smeared over with coal-tar to make it water-proof, is put over hollow frames or covers which are filled with straw and placed over the lights of the pit which is to be protected. The efficiency of this covering remains to be proved. It looks, however, as if it would be durable; it costs a penny a square foot.—Of *Dioscorea Batatas*, or Chinese yam, there were roots from Mr. Henderson, the Society's Garden, and from Her Majesty's garden. It was stated concerning this root that small tubers answered better for the purpose of increasing it than the little pea-like buds formed everywhere in the axils of the leaves. It was also mentioned that as the thick end of the root is that which penetrates the soil, and as it goes nearly straight down into the earth, deep land is indispensable to its successful cultivation.

ZOOLOGICAL.—Nov. 27.—Dr. Gray, in the chair.—Mr. G. R. Gray communicated a paper, 'On a new Species of Somateria and other Birds, Collected by Mr. Adams during the Voyage of H.M.S. Enterprise, Commanded by Capt. Collinson, R.N.'—He exhibited Mr. Adams's drawings of the new species of Somateria, of which several specimens were collected during the voyage. The drawings exhibited the male and female and the male in change. This species was very similar to *Somateria mollissima*, but easily distinguished from it by a black mark on the throat, like the one found on that part of the *S. spectabilis*, and by the white longitudinal mark on the top of the head being narrower and less conspicuous than in *S. mollissima*. A specimen of this species was added to the collection of the British Museum in 1851. It was collected during the voyage of H.M.S. Herald, and found at Kotzebue Sound. From the black mark on the throat, which is in the form of a reversed V, Mr. Gray characterized it under the name of *S. V. nigrum*. Mr. Gray also exhibited a beautiful drawing of the *Lamprolaima Fischeri* of M. Brandt, of which only one example was known to exist in collection, viz., at Moscow. Mr. Adams had the good fortune to obtain not only the male but the female during the voyage, as well as to see the young male in change. As the female was unknown to M. Brandt, Mr. Gray pointed out the chief differences which distinguish it from its allied species. Mr. Adams had called the species, from the rich blue colour of the eyes, "Blue-eyed Eider Duck."

—Mr. P. L. Slater read a note on the genus *Legircinclus*, of Lesson, and its synonyms; from which it appeared that that name and the five other generic terms, some of which had hitherto been placed in widely different families of birds, ought to be consolidated into one genus, for which Mr. G. R. Gray's appellation, *Cinlocrotheria*, was the oldest that could be adopted.—Mr. Slater also gave a description of a new Tanager, of the genus *Buarremon* (*Arremon leucopterus*, Jardine), lately transmitted to Sir William Jardine by Prof. Jameson of Quito; and exhibited a specimen of the peculiar soricine mammal, *Galeomys pyrenaica*, from the Pyrenees.—Mr. F. Moore read a notice of some new species of birds belonging to the following genera, *Otocoris*, *Emberiza*, *Propasser*, and *Linoia*.—Dr. Gray described a new genus of fish-scaled Lizards, from New Guinea. The type was presented, with other most interesting and novel specimens, to the British Museum, by Mr. John McGillivray, who accompanied H.M.S. Herald as naturalist during her voyage in the Australasian seas. It was characterized under the name of *Corucia zebrata*.—The Secretary read a paper, by Mr. Arthur

Adams, containing descriptions of twenty-five new species of shells, from the collection of Hugh Cumming, Esq.—Mr. Woodward exhibited and described a specimen of the great bivalve shell-fish, *Panopæa Aldrovandi*, preserved in spirit. It was supposed to come from Lisbon, and was presented to the Gloucester Museum by Capt. Guise. The structure of this mollusk showed that the British shell, called *Panopæa Norvegica*, could not belong to the same genus or even to the same family of bivalves, but must be referred to *Saxicava*, amongst the Gastrochæmideæ,—a conclusion warranted equally by the characters of the shell and animal. Of the other recent species of *Panopæa*, the largest was found on the coast of South Africa, and having been erroneously identified with *P. Australis* (G. Sowb.), from New South Wales, would require a new name, and it was proposed to call it *P. Natalensis*. *P. abbreviata*, from Patagonia, and *P. Zelandica* were the only other living species of a genus which was found fossil wherever secondary or tertiary strata occurred, and which seemed to be dying out on the distant margins of the area which it had once overspread.

INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.—Nov. 27.—J. Simpson, Esq., President, in the chair.—The papers read were, 'On the Application of Volute-springs to the Safety Valves of Locomotive and other Boilers,' by Mr. J. Ballie.—'Description of an Improved Form of Safety Valve, for Steam Boilers,' by Mr. J. Fenton.

SOCIETY OF ARTS.—Nov. 28.—Dr. J. Lindley in the chair.—The paper read was, 'On the Gums and Resins of Commerce,' by Mr. P. L. Simmonds.

INSTITUTE OF ACTUARIES.—Nov. 26.—Mr. Tucker, V.P., in the chair.—Mr. Jellicoe read a paper, 'On the Valuation of Property held for Life and in Reversion, and on the due Apportionment of it, when so held on the same Life, between the Tenant for Life and the Remainder-Man.'—He began by stating that the diversity of opinion and practice on the questions he was about to submit to the meeting rendered it very desirable that they should be discussed, and that a clearer understanding should be come to as to the principles upon which they should be solved. After showing in what way such diversity arose and exhibiting the results of it, he proceeded to show that there were three cases which presented themselves as connected with such questions: the first being that in which the tenant in possession and the reversioner were mutually desirous of realizing the estate; the second, that in which the reversioner alone sought to do so, and compensation had to be given to the tenant for life; and the third, that in which the reverse was the case, and compensation had to be made to the reversioner for the surrender of his interest to the tenant. It was argued, that the interests of the two, when separately considered, were properly represented by the simple formulae  $\frac{1}{d+p} - 1$  and  $1 - d(1+p)$ ;

and that, in the first case, the sum arising from the realization of the estate should be divided in the proportions which the amounts obtained by these expressions indicated. The writer entered into the reasons which justified such a division; and proceeded to examine the other cases, giving expressions for their determination and the reasoning upon which they were founded. He compared the results obtained by these methods with those arrived at in general practice; and concluded by urging the adoption of greater uniformity in future in such matters.—Mr. Hardy, in commenting on Mr. Jellicoe's paper, suggested that assurance companies should grant policies in Consols.

#### MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

- MOX. Royal Academy, 8.—'Anatomy,' by Prof. Partridge.  
— Royal Institution, 8.—General Monthly Meeting.  
— British Architects, 8.  
— Entomological, 8.  
TUES. Civil Engineers, 8.—'On the Gold-bearing Rocks of the World,' by Mr. Hopkins.—'Ballot for Members.'  
— Linnæan, 8.  
WED. Society of Arts, 8.—'On the Construction of Private Carriages in England, and the Carriage Department of the Paris Exhibition,' by Mr. Hooper.  
— Geological, 8.—'On the Pilestones, or Downland Sandstones, in the Neighbourhood of Kingston, and their Fossil Contents,' by Mr. Banks.—'On the Last Elevation of the Alps, with Notices of the Heights at which the Sea has left Traces of its Action on their Sides,' by Mr. Sharpe.

- THURS. Antiquaries, 8.  
— Zoological, 8.—General.  
FRI. Royal Academy, 8.—'Anatomy,' by Prof. Partridge.  
— Archaeological Institute, 4.  
— Philological, 8.

#### FINE ARTS

*The Acropolis*—[*L'Acropole d'Athènes*]. By E. Beulé. Paris, Didot Frères; London, Nutt. THE isolated position of the Cecropian rock naturally distinguishes it as a subject for separate dissertation, and M. Beulé has confined his two volumes to the Acropolis alone.

Numerous ancient authors adopted the same limit, and the existence of their works in the days of Pausanias—the John Murray of antiquity—induced him to withhold many interesting particulars from his *Itinerary*, which we must the more regret as his book is now the only one among them that has come down to us.

The indifference of the Middle Ages to all that relates to Athenian monuments and history has been singularly counterbalanced, although in many instances too late, by the zeal and patient investigations of modern times; and we look back, almost with incredulity, to the period when the Parthenon was called by some a *Panthcon*, and by others the temple of *The Unknown God*, mentioned by St. Paul. A French ambassador, in 1621, visited Athens, on his way to Constantinople, and described the Parthenon as of an *oval form*. At this period the Greeks themselves showed the *Lantern* of Demosthenes and the *Arsenal* of Lycourges among their antiquities. Another French ambassador, the Marquis de Nointel, in 1674, rendered an important service to the study of the Fine Arts. He employed Jacques Carrey, a pupil of Lebrun, to make drawings of all the sculptures and ancient buildings at that time visible. These drawings are still in existence, and afford the earliest and frequently the only existing evidences of many particulars.

M. Beulé's work is a compilation from various sources, blended with his own observations, during an apparently long residence at Athens. He has strong claims on our attention both as a scholar and as successor to the professorial chair of M. Raoul-Rochette at Paris. The first pages of his book are devoted to a general view of the subject,—the history of Athens, and her antiquities, and an account of her visitors and votaries in recent times. It afterwards recounts, very modestly, M. Beulé's own discoveries at the entrance to the Acropolis in 1852-3, which, together with the description of the lesser remains around the Parthenon and Erechtheum, constitute the main points of originality in these volumes. M. Beulé's observations on the two chief Temples are in a great measure derived from MM. Paccard and Tetaz. The minuteness with which M. Beulé goes into his subject, introducing inscriptions, but those only which have a practical bearing, renders his book especially serviceable, and the freshness of style promises to make it a work of frequent reference.

On the threshold, that is, in the Preface, he copies a tablet, with an inscription, that has been inserted in the wall at the entrance to the Acropolis, in Greek and French. This amusing specimen of nationality runs thus:—"Η Γαλλία την πύλην της Ακροπόλεως, τα τείχη τους περγούς και την αναβάσιν κεχωρήσμεν ἐξελκύσσειν. Βεϋλέ ευρεν." Or, in plain English:—*France has unburied the entrance to the Acropolis, the walls, the towers and the ascent. Beulé found it.*

The motives that induced him to take up the pen are thus set forth:—

The object of this work, then, is to describe the ruins of the Acropolis, and to bring together the most requisite materials towards a restoration, although it must unfortunately remain confined to imagination alone. I shall, therefore, bestow especial care upon all that has a direct topographical interest or connexion with the history of Art, rejecting whatever minutie do not bear directly upon our subject. . . . The Greeks have collected a considerable number of these monuments in the little museum of the Propylæa, but without recording the exact spot in which each was discovered. They seem to have forgotten that that is a more important consideration than the empty names upon them recording the erection of statues which no longer exist. Thus, information is irretrievably lost, and the *Archæological Journal* merely states "Found to the north of the Parthenon,—to the east of the Erechtheum," even within a very short time of their discovery. I shall pursue



in my description the order observed by Pausanias; it is at the same time, the most convenient.

He expresses a regret that his work had not the advantage of all possible materials for a reconstruction, since—

The greater part of the level that extends to the east of the Parthenon and Erechtheum and the entire north-west angle of the Acropolis, behind the Propylæa, have never yet been excavated. Who knows what foundations, pedestals, sculptures, and inscriptions are thus still kept from us?—Others, more fortunate than I, may see the Acropolis entirely laid open, and behold further instances of the riches which the Arts had conferred upon it; forming, in the words of a Greek orator, "only one sole offering, one entire monument."

The north and south walls appeared to M. Beulé to have been originally continued further to the west, and the open arrangement of the Propylæa, ill adapted in themselves for purposes of defence, induced him to look for the remains of outworks and a guarded entrance at the foot of the great flight of steps. He explored. They had been buried, and there he found them; an excellent proof of his sagacity.—

The fortifications present a front parallel with the grand façade of the Propylæa, consisting of a wall with a Doric gateway, flanked by a square tower on each side. This arrangement frequently occurs in antiquity. The Gateway at Messene affords one of the best examples: the Etruscan towers of Perugia one of the most curious. The central wall was found in its entire height,.... formed of marbles taken from various monuments and arranged with sufficient regularity and care to denote the influence of the best examples. The upper part, which might be called the entablature, is made up from various Doric buildings, and arranged in the same hasty manner, as seen in the remains of the older Parthenon, which were built into the north wall of the Propylæa. The architrave of Pentelic marble, derived from a Choric monument, supports a frieze of ufo, combining triglyphs, with metopes of marble, the latter merely square plates inserted. Upon this, again, rests a marble cornice, likewise taken from some other buildings.... Above all, possibly to increase the height of the wall subsequently, was imposed an attic, consisting of a frieze and cornice, from the interior of a temple, pertaining probably to the wall of the cella. Bullet marks remain, showing that these walls were certainly exposed as late as the time of the use of fire-arms. The damp has spread a coating like moss over the surface, but, when carefully removed, remains of paint appear,—red and blue in all their brilliancy.

During the flourishing period of the Roman Empire, Athens appears to have been destitute of fortification; her walls were not rebuilt after Sylla had razed them, till the time when Valerian ordered defensive preparations against the approaching Goths (A.D. 262). To this period M. Beulé attributes the reconstruction of the central wall, of divers materials, and the basement of the towers, assigning, strange to say, the portions resting upon that basement to the best period of Greek construction.

To find comparatively modern work supporting ancient masonry attributable to Mnesicles or Conon is not a little startling, although something like parallels may be found; but the hypothesis advanced by the explorer to account for this phenomenon is so ingenious and so well borne out that it must not be entirely passed over. As danger and haste prompt expedients, the Athenians, on the approach of the enemy, not only raised their walls by building upon the foundations that remained from the time of Sylla, but deepened them from below by uncovering their base, so as completely to lay bare the foundations. Finding that these rested upon earth instead of rock, they dug down still further, adding stones and mortar as they descended, until they came to the solid rock. That the base of the towers was built downwards is fairly proved by the manner in which a bed of mortar had been introduced between the lowest stones and the rock itself; the latter had, of course, never been shaped to receive any masonry at all. The entire base of the wall and towers was thus sunk five feet below the original level. But the expedient brought a difficulty with it. The lowest step of the grand flight was now five feet above the threshold of the gateway, and the space left between them did not admit of a continuation of the stairs at the same angle with the rest. They, therefore introduced seven steps, at a more sudden inclination, and of much ruder construction, bringing them close upon the gate itself. An artistic proof of the correctness of the former level is afforded by the fact that, from the foot of the seven steps, the buildings at the top of the grand flight are only partially visible; but when standing five

feet higher—the original arrangement—the entire Propylæa, with the five gates, are seen in all their glory. The towers seem to have been always open on the inner side, that is, to have consisted of only three walls, whilst the northern one—like the gate-pedestals of the British Museum—had been hollowed into apartments, for the accommodation of the *ακροφυλάκες*, or porters.

Notwithstanding these varieties of construction, M. Beulé considers that the original ground-plan of Mnesicles has not been departed from. In surveying the Acropolis, our author, with Pausanias in hand, studies what he sees, and notes by the book what is wanting. In some cases, the broken fragments before him afford a valuable commentary, and a supplement even, to the ancient author. It is pleasant to find that, although the statues which studded the sacred enclosures have gone, many of their pedestals yet remain. The names of Callias, Diitrephes, Pyrrhus, Cresilas and Strongylion may still be read upon them,—by their means several dubious readings of artists' names in Pliny's Natural History have been set at rest. But all these results have an interest for archaeologists only. In these pages they may revel in a confirmation of the inscription to the bronze horse Duris, hitherto known only through the scholiast Aristophanes, and in the addition of the name of the artist, Strongylion, which neither he nor Pausanias had preserved.

The ground between the Parthenon and Propylæa was divided into two distinct enclosures of different level, dedicated respectively to the Brauronia Diana and Minerva Erganna. That each contained a small temple or chapel is well argued, and M. Beulé even points out architectural remains attributable to them. The minutely accurate map of the Acropolis in Mr. Penrose's work shows precisely the differences of surface in the boundaries alluded to; but, although purely conjectural, it may be questioned whether M. Beulé is justified in giving a direct north and south axis to his little temples, instead of conforming with the approximate system of orientation observed by the ancients. On further examination, we are surprised to find that he and M. Desbuisson have overlooked the absolute absence of parallelism in all the buildings of the Acropolis,—a point so strongly urged by Mr. Penrose,—and that they have represented the Parthenon and Erechtheum in their plan exactly side by side. In speaking of the curved lines of the Parthenon, M. Beulé renders a graceful tribute of praise to the English discoverers. It is remarkable that in the Propylæa the upper part of the building has the horizontal lines curved: the lower portion has them straight, perhaps to accord with the flight of steps, which are perfectly so. The removal of the old Mosque within the Parthenon revealed foot-marks of the smaller columns of the interior that had supported the roof. This settled a long-disputed question as to their order and arrangement, or if, indeed, there had been any at all. They were unquestionably Doric, from the fact that marks of the fluting appeared on the pavement, and in the Doric order alone are they continued to the ground. An accurate plan of the actual state of the entire pavement, published at the time by Mr. George Knowles, created no small sensation among architects.

It is curious that, in giving an account of the history and investigators of the Parthenon, both the author of the little volumes on the 'Elgin Marbles' in the "Library of Entertaining Knowledge" and M. Beulé take no account of the labours and enterprise of James Stuart, who procured for himself the appellation of *Athenian Stuart*. Born of humble parents, he supported himself at an early age by painting fans, and afterwards obtained sufficient means to visit Rome, where he remained seven years. Stuart and Revett first issued their 'Proposals' for a journey to Athens, at Rome, in 1748. Their proposition was mainly, and a passage or two from their original Preface will interest our readers.—

If, from what has been said, it should appear that Architecture is reduced and restrained within narrower limits than could be wished, for want of a greater number of ancient examples than have hitherto been published, it must then be granted that every such example of beautiful

form or proportion, wherever it may be found, is a valuable addition to the former stock, and does, when published, become a material acquisition to the art. But of all the countries which were embellished by the ancients with magnificent buildings, Greece appears principally to merit our attention; since, if we believe the ancients themselves, the most beautiful orders and dispositions of columns were invented in that country, and the most celebrated works of architecture were erected there; to which may be added, that the most excellent treatises on the art appear to have been written by Grecian architects.

The work which resulted from this combined enterprise is wonderfully complete when viewed with reference to the difficulties and dangers which beset the enthusiasts at every turn. An opposition work was started by a French architect, named Le Roy, who also published *Athenian Antiquities*, and, at the time, obtained much attention, to the great mortification of the original projectors. But his work soon fell into disrepute, and has remained in well-deserved oblivion ever since. Two early travellers are frequently referred to by M. Beulé, Dr. Spon of Lyons, and Mr. Wheler, who visited Athens in 1676. The former is described as educated, but self-sufficient; the latter mild and deferential to his companion, although gifted with more refinement and penetration.—

I always (says M. Beulé), prefer to quote Wheler to Spon, because whilst copying from his travelling companion, he occasionally adds a few remarks of his own.

They afford the earliest and only information upon the interior of the Parthenon during the seventeenth century. The much-discussed question of temple painting and polychromy in general has its pages in M. Beulé's work; as in other branches of his subject he collects conflicting opinions and tries occasionally to reconcile them. He states that many of the patterns upon the architectural surface were so minute, that unless in positive and contrasted colours, they would have been lost at so great a distance from the eye. He states that M. Paccard had positively discovered a yellow-ochre crust upon the columns of the Parthenon, but whether the result of Nature or Art is not yet satisfactorily ascertained. That every part of the ancient temples was not coloured, he demonstrates by a passage in Pausanias, stating that the Propylæa were roofed with *white stone*. He does not favour the theory of Mr. Penrose and others who imagine a tint to have been artificially diffused over the marble to subdue its intensely white appearance to the eye. Pentelic marble has a tendency to become yellow on exposure to the atmosphere. He produces the following quotation from M. Burnouf.—

If the Greeks had not painted their buildings nature would have done it for them.

Presumptuous race, then, to forestall the universal mother in her vocation!

M. Beulé attributes the execution of the celebrated frieze of the Parthenon to Critios, Agoracritus and others, and concludes a chapter on the sculpture of the statues of the pediments with a question which his readers may solve for themselves, if they can.—

Might not the western pediment be the work of Alcamenes and the eastern of Phidias?

He speaks of Phidias as almost entirely a worker in metal, and says that Pliny is the *only* author who mentions him as a worker in stone. In this passage he seems to have forgotten the important testimony of Aristotle, and the passage in Valerius Maximus, stating that Phidias desired to make his great statue of Minerva of stone instead of ivory and gold; but the Athenians would not consent. In describing the frieze we meet with a fanciful and unfortunately erroneous description of the central and most important subject.—

On the left hand the high priestess receives from the Errephoroi, two maidens, the mysterious objects they had brought from the city. \* \* As the event happens at night, the foremost carries a torch in her hand. On a close examination, the outlines of the flame are perceptible.

The original marble, which possibly M. Beulé has not had the opportunity of studying, is now in the British Museum, and from certain indications yet remaining, both of projections and rivet-holes, the objects carried by the maidens seem not to have been baskets, but seats or tables. What Visconti and M. Beulé call a torch, is, in fact, one of the legs of the table, precisely similar to some belonging to the seats of the neighbouring divinities. No classic torch was ever seen of such a shape.





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ment British Art, than it was represented by Hogarth, Reynolds, Gainsborough, and Wilson, all of whom lived and laboured before the Academy had existence. Academicians, as constituted, never did and never will do anything for Art. The great artists in all countries preceded Academicians. Academicians, indeed, were generally a consequence of that admiration and reverence for Art which the works of great artists had awakened. They are, at best, I fear, a mockery and a delusion,—our own is something worse. In the phrase of the Irish orator, it "turns its back on itself." In every act of its formal existence, it is influenced by any and every consideration, except honour for and love of Art. Its President is avowedly chosen not because he is the great artist whom artists love to honour—would teach the public to honour,—but because he can make a speech or make a bow, and therefore welcome, after the established drawing-room model, the patrons who condescend on occasions to visit the Academy or eat the Academy dinner. After this fashion it would be better represented by a gentleman—either a master of the ceremonies. Then, the annual dinner. Read the names of the guests, and say if it be not a mere trading speculation—a compliment to full purses—an opportunity to do the civil to customers. This may be well so far as the artists, or rather so far as Academicians, are concerned,—but what effect has it on Art? Such patrons and such patronage have the same influence as Art-Union patrons and patronage,—and what that is was shown years since in the *Athenæum*. They tend inevitably to lower the aim, end, and character of Art. Every man who lives by Art must paint up or patron to the taste of its patrons:—therefore, the only true patron of Art—of artists is another question—an enlightened public. The late "A.R.A." Landseer, I remember made a boast, some years since, in the *Athenæum*, that the Academy kept open an Antique school, a Life school, gave Lectures,—in brief, educated the "rising artists" gratuitously. Well, and what have the "rising" artists of a hundred years risen to? Ask the Paris Jurors. It is quite true, however, that the Academy does teach gratuitously, and has thus educated mechanic artists until they trample on one another in a race for honours. Do the College of Physicians, the College of Surgeons, the Inns of Court, teach gratuitously? Yet we must have doctors, surgeons, and lawyers. Many a poor man educates his son or his daughter as an artist simply because, through the genteel eleemosynary establishment at the Academy, he can do so without cost. If it were not invidious, I could name whole families—men and women—who, in consequence, live, or rather starve, by Art. Some R.A.'s know this; the more intelligent profess to regret it, but say, in apology, they are bound to do so by the constitution of the Academy. That is the very thing of which I complain; and therefore, I say, either the Academy must reform itself or be reformed. Throw open the Academy; let every man take his degree in Art as he would in other professions, and let every man who has taken his degree have a voice in the election of the R.A.'s and officers. This common-sense right or privilege has been conceded at the London University, not established more than a dozen years,—while the Academy still rejoices in its exclusiveness,—in its thirteen A.R.A.'s, the number first named, although the increase of population and their gratuitous teaching have multiplied the candidates fifty-fold. Let the Academy teach the public,—artists would have the benefit as well as others. Let their Professors give lectures to the public,—show to the public what there is in Art which tends to elevate and ennoble,—lecture to the public on the great works in our National and other Galleries, and show why they are admired, and are deserving of all admiration. In this way the public would learn to appreciate Art; and the artist—such, at least, as remained—would be forced to work up to his public, and we need not fear to come disgraced, as we have done, out of a European competition.

No R.A.

—Another Correspondent, an R.A. and one of the Decorated, puts in a plea in behalf of some of the Academicians. He says, he is aware that some of his fellow Academicians did their best to obtain the loan of their principal works, but were unable to conquer the timidity or the repugnance of their owners. No doubt, some of the fault lies here. Yet we suspect that greater earnestness on the part of the artists themselves, assisted by some sort of public appeal, where necessary, through the Press, would have secured a better representation of English genius at this gathering of contemporary Art.

Church windows are breaking every day into colours. In one paper alone we find stained glass has been introduced into St. Wilfrid's Chapel at Preston, Barley Church, Leeds, and the churches at Harewood and Kendal.

Sir Walter James gave a lecture at the Architectural Museum, Cannon Row, on Monday evening last. His subject was 'On Colour and its Use in Architectural Art.' The philosophical portions were received with deep attention, and the successful experiments relating to the influence of position upon colours excited great admiration. The earnest manner of the lecturer gained over many to consider a subject too frequently neglected. He referred frequently to M. Chevreul's work on Colour, and exhibited, at the conclusion of the lecture, some beautifully executed paintings on paper, which combined very successfully perfect breadth with exquisite finish.

It is stated that the Queen of Spain has presented two valuable pictures, by Murillo, to the Pope. The subject of the chief picture is the 'Marriage of St. Catherine.' It always hung in the Queen's bedroom, and before it her most Catholic Majesty was in the habit of paying her evening devotions. The other picture represents the Prodigal Son, the same subject as the grand *Soult* picture, now in the possession of the Duke of Sutherland. Among the known Murillos there is only one of the 'Marriage of St. Catherine,' which belongs to the hospital at Cadiz, and was his last work. In the Queen's possession were four sketches relating to the Prodigal Son. The Pope has had the pictures handsomely framed, with inscriptions commemorative of the donor. They are deposited in the Museum of the Vatican.

M. Tarouilly, a French architect, has fallen a victim to his unintermitting exertions on a work illustrating St. Peter's at Rome. His brain became affected by the one thought—vast and varied as it is—and his health sank under the application.

Herr Johann Hartung, sculptor of the fine marble group of 'Rhine and Moselle,' placed in the gardens of the royal castle at Coblenz, has been ordered, by the King of Prussia, to execute the model for a colossal bronze statue of the late King, to be erected on the height of the fortress of Ehrenbreitstein.

It is intended to erect a monument to the poet Hebel (author of the celebrated 'Allemanische Gedichte') in the Cemetery of Schwetzingen, Grand Duchy of Baden. Large sums have been contributed; but, an artistic controversy having arisen about the plan of the monument, its execution, most likely, will still be delayed for some time.

#### MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

MISS DOLBY begs to announce that her FIRST SOIRÉE MUSICALE will take place at her residence, 3, Hind Street, Manchester Square, on THURSDAY, December 6, to commence at half-past eight o'clock, precisely, when she will be assisted by Mrs. Tennant, Miss Amy Dolby, Mr. Tennant, Mr. George Dolby; Messrs. W. T. Bennett, Blagrove, Lucas, and George Russell. Subscription Tickets for the two Soirées, 15s.; Single Tickets, 10s. 6d.; to be obtained of Messrs. Cramer, 20, Regent Street; Messrs. Addison, 200, Regent Street; and of Miss Dolby, at her residence.

M. JULIEN'S CONCERTS.—POSITIVELY THE LAST WEEK BUT ONE.—On MONDAY, December 3, and TUESDAY, the Programme will include the new Grand Descriptive Quadrille, 'THE FALL OF SEBASTOPOL,' two Songs by the celebrated MADAME GASSIÉ, the new Selection from 'Il Trovatore,' &c. &c.

The MOZART FESTIVAL will take place NEXT WEDNESDAY, December 5, on which occasion the whole of the First Part of the Concert will consist exclusively of the Works of Mozart. The Second Part will be miscellaneous, and include Songs by Madame Gassier and 'The Fall of Sebastopol' Quadrille.

M. JULIEN'S GRAND BAL MASQUÉ will take place on MONDAY, December 17.

PRINCESS'S.—The revival, on Tuesday, of 'Every One has his Fault,' Mrs. Inchbald's eccentric comedy, the theme of which involves the *pros* and *cons* of the marriage life,—the inequality of matches, the suffering wife, the henpecked husband, the discontented bachelor, the stern, aristocratic father, and the adopted grandson,—is likely to attract considerable attention. *Lady Eleanor Irwin* is a character almost tragic in its pathos, and found in Mrs. C. Kean a representative in all respects adapted for the affecting situations in which she is placed. The great feature of the revival is, however, the *Harmony* of Mr. Frank Matthews, who embodies the part to perfection. The advantage of a little benevolent fiction to promote the amenities of social life is abundantly illustrated in the character; and Mr. Matthews entered into the spirit of the conception with that good humour which is so natural to him. The part of *Mr. Irwin*, who is driven by distress to attempt suicide and commit a robbery on his noble father-in-law, was most picturesquely impersonated by Mr. Ryder, whose manly bearing gave an intense interest to the situations. Nor was Mr. Walter Lacy out of his element in *Sir Robert Ramble*; but performed it in a dashing and burlesque style, perfectly in keeping with its unreal and extravagant peculiarity. It is, in fact, a caricature;—as is also the part of *Solus*, to which Mr. Harley gave the most absurd of expressions. The Ladies have but little to do in this

play. *Miss Woburn* (Miss Heath) and *Mrs. Placid* (Miss Murray) are little more than "walking gentlewomen," provided with a slight tinge of character to keep up appearances,—but there was an elegance of deportment in both which atoned for the absence of more stirring qualities. This drama has been selected on account of its supposed moral tendencies;—but these are of a kind on which opinion is much divided. The spectator is supposed to have as much charity as *Harmony* himself to excuse the sins of the dramatic persons; and, as "every one has his fault," to extend a plenary pardon to all offenders, from a certain self-consciousness that he himself needs forgiveness. Whether the present age has got beyond this state of sentimentalism we know not;—but the spirit is not one which is fostered by the highest class of works, in which a far more severe tone of ethics prevails.

SADLER'S WELLS.—The 'Midsummer Night's Dream' was reproduced on Monday. The scenery is substantially the same as on former occasions, though a new face has been put on one or two of "the interiors," which have borrowed for their adornment some of the splendours that belonged to the palaces and temples that composed the "gorgeous" accessories of the revival of 'Pericles.' The wood scenery is, however, the same harmonious interchange and union of moonlight and verdure that cast such a dreamlike and fairy influence over the earlier performers of this delicious drama. The two main novelties to be regarded are the *Puck* of Miss Rose Edouin, and *Hermia* of Miss Jane Marston, both of which are excellent, and add to the romance and interest of the general scene. The *Bottom* of Mr. Phelps is as racy and eccentric as ever,—full of comic power, and marked by peculiarities which serve to individualize the personation and mark the delineation as an extraordinary effort of histrionic aptitude.

ADELPHI.—Mr. Oxenford's farce of 'Twice Killed' was revived on Monday; Mr. and Mrs. Keeley performing their old parts of *Euclid Facile* and *Fanny Pepper* with their accustomed comicality. The latter is, perhaps, the best example of farcical terror to be witnessed on the modern stage.

MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP.—Yesterday week the performances of the *Sacred Harmonic Society* commenced for the season, with the two works named in a former announcement. The solo singers were Madame Rudersdorf, Miss Dolby, Mr. Locket, and Mr. Thomas. The last gentleman in time of death or of no death should come into occupation as a bass singer of value, in right of his natural qualities and musical acquirements.

Our daily contemporaries announce the nomination of Mr. W. S. Bennett as Conductor to the *Philharmonic Concerts* for 1856. The only comment on this appointment which can be offered is, "Better very late than never,"—for very late has it been made: and at a juncture when to take up the *bâton* amounts almost to the leadership of a forlorn hope. To state again why and how the *Philharmonic Society* has lost ground, by its management and discipline, would be for us to write "the musical article" in the *Athenæum* anew. On Mr. W. S. Bennett depend some of the few chances left to the Society for recovering its lost ground. He has, however, at once to establish himself, in the presence of associations left by one of the best living conductors, Signor Costa, and to "drag" the Concerts into some popularity out of the abyss into which they were plunged by the eccentricities of one of the worst living conductors we have "sate under"—Herr Wagner. The difficulty of Mr. Bennett's position is thus twofold,—a difficulty rendered greater by the behaviour of the *Philharmonic Directors* in regard to all new music. We conceive that a course by which these difficulties might be met could be taken by a man of skill, nerve and courage,—bound to no party, neglecting no opportunity of giving that which has been unheard a



trial, if it be fairly good; but not of crediting with goodness everything which is new; and right glad shall we be to find the new conductor equal to the task of lifting our once famous English Society out of "the Slough of Despond." But the appointment is taken under circumstances of heavy discouragement; and this should be understood, both for the purpose of stimulating the coming Conductor to his utmost exertions, and of putting the audience into an attitude of favourable construction.

M. Jullien's Promenade Concerts are proceeding as usual. To meet the "Meyerbeer fancy" of England just now, we suppose, he the other evening attempted the Overture to 'Struensee,'—but that prelude cannot keep a place as a concert overture, though it is elaborately wrought, and though its commencement—a Danish air, picturesquely and pompously dressed—is excellent. M. Jullien's Mendelssohn, Beethoven, and Mozart nights will be duly given. M. Sinton and Mr. Viotti Collins on the violin, Mr. Lazarus on the clarinet, and M. Montigny on the violoncello, have given variety to the programmes by their respective performances.

The concerts of the *Amateur Society* will commence for the season on Monday next.

Madame Goldschmidt has arrived in London:—it is understood with the intention of giving a series of concerts in England. She will sing in 'The Creation' on Monday week, and in 'Elijah' on Monday fortnight at Exeter Hall,—the Oratorios being conducted by Mr. Benedict. We may here notice the announcement, published in the *Morning Post* some days ago, by Mr. Mitchell, who is on this occasion her manager, disavowing at the Lady's instance a statement put forth in the *Art-Journal*, and copied in other journals, to the effect that Madame Goldschmidt visits England in compliance with an invitation from Mrs. S. C. Hall, and with the special or exclusive purpose of singing for the Nightingale Testimonial Fund. Surely, it is time that the appearances of a benevolent woman and magnificent singer should be disengaged from all scaffolding, props, and magnifying vistas of the Barnum order of architecture.

The reports of the Chambers and Waters trials, in the Court of Bankruptcy and other courts of law, must have long since instructed all who trouble themselves with legal proceedings, that rarely has any building furnished such ample picking for the ravens of Law as *Her Majesty's Theatre*. They have been "at it again"; the plaintiff, "Faithful Croft," attempting to oust Mr. Defendant Lumley, who appears to cling fast to the building, though the theatre still continues shut for the box and stall proprietors,—who have no dividends—no opposition to Covent Garden—no Lind—no "Passe de Quatre"—no nothing" by way of amusement—in return for the 70,000*l.*, or thereabouts, said to have been sunk by them collectively within the Haymarket quadrangle. Judgment has been given in Mr. Lumley's favour; but we imagine that there is small chance of such trial proving the last trial, and no great probability of the theatre re-opening. Were the last feat performed, it would be still a question, where is the company—where is the repertory to come from—capable of attracting a public to the place where Pasta, Pisaroni, Malibran, and Sontag sang Signor Rossini's operas almost as fast as they were produced?

Besides the monster concerts given in the Exhibition Building at Paris, of which some mention was made last week, other musical entertainments have been held there on a vast scale; one of these being devoted to a selection from the works of M. Félicien David; another, an assemblage of the choral societies and singing-schools of France and Belgium. At this, the voices and wind instruments employed in their accompaniments amounted to 4,500 persons. M. Gounod conducted this concert, as the head of the *Orphéon*.

Private letters from Paris describe the appearance of Signor Mario and Signora Peneco in 'Il Trovatore,' at the Italian Opera in Paris, to have been little successful.—M. Roger has signed a new

engagement with the *Grand Opéra* at Paris; M. Meyerbeer, it is whispered, having made this a condition of giving 'L'Africaine' to that theatre. How are foreign journals to be believed!—The foreign papers some weeks ago killed and buried Herr Ander, the Viennese tenor; and the *Athenæum* copied the report of his death and funeral. We must, therefore, mention that we have since seen reports on the performances of Herr Ander.—The Herr Maelzel, too, of whose death we spoke conjecturally some weeks ago, is now said not to have been the maker of the far-famed automata, but his brother,—also, a mechanician of some renown.

The new opera by MM. Scribe and Aubert, in which Madame Marie Cabel is to appear at the *Opéra Comique* of Paris, is to be on the old story of 'Manon Lescaut.'—A new five-act play, 'Joconde' has been just produced at the *Théâtre Français*, with Madame Arnould-Plessy as its heroine.

A Signora Lotti della Santa, described as possessing a superb *soprano* voice, has appeared at the Italian Opera in the Russian capital, with entire success. 'L'Etoile du Nord' is in preparation there; but, out of deference to etiquette, the libretto of M. Meyerbeer's opera will be re-made, and the outbreaks and heroisms of *Master Peter* be transferred to some other hero of history.

Herr von Flotow, the composer of 'Stradella,' 'Martha,' and other popular operas, has been appointed *Intendant* of the Grand Ducal Theatre, Schwerin.—Herr Taubert, of Berlin, has repaired to Munich, in order to superintend there the execution of one of his latest works,—viz. a series of compositions written (at the desire of the Munich theatrical authorities) to accompany a representation of Shakespeare's 'Tempest,' on the birthday of King Maximilian. Herr von Dingelstedt has adapted the drama, after Schlegel's translation, for the stage.

Schiller's tragedy, 'Die Braut von Messina,' has been represented at Weimar, on the 10th of November, in commemoration of the poet's birthday. The profits of the performance have been made over, by command of the Grand Duke, to the Schiller Fund at Dresden [*ante*, p. 764].

At Toulouse—the scene of that battle which was fought betwixt English and French after Napoleon's abdication—the last battle of its series—'God save the Queen' was lately sung with English words. The journals go on to say that the tune was rapturously applauded. Toulouse, nevertheless, has a rude public, among which old prejudices might be expected to linger, if we may judge from certain amusing municipal regulations lately passed there in regard to its theatre, which we met a week or two since, in the French papers. These forbade that "people should bring in their dogs, keep their hats on after the curtain went up, smoke in the theatre, slide down the pillars from tier to tier, or throw anything on the stage."

#### MISCELLANEA

*Recovery of Waste Places.*—Lying between Blackfriars and Southwark Bridges, on the Surrey side of the river, and immediately adjacent to it, are a considerable number of courts and alleys, occupied by working people, mostly in very humble circumstances. There is, however, an amount of cleanliness highly creditable to them. To benefit this district a number of gentlemen connected with New Park Street Chapel, headed by its minister, the Rev. C. H. Spurgeon, have recently taken premises, which have been converted, at a cost of 250*l.*, into the New Park Street Mission Hall. Within the last few days 200 children have been entered for instruction, a portion of the building has been set apart for the use of working men, and is opened every night, a good fire, gas, and suitable reading being provided gratuitously. The readers are at liberty to bring with them either their own newspaper or wholesome periodicals. In addition to these advantages, weekly lectures have been commenced, wholly unsectarian in character. The success

already secured is such as to convince the Committee that these efforts are appreciated. It is not improbable that an attempt may be made to supply coffee refreshment at cost price, with a view still further to lure the laborious poor from the public-house. We cannot but wish the Committee great success in this laudable movement.

*The Vines of Tuscany.*—Our Correspondent in Florence sends us some amusing details on the Vine Disease in Tuscany. He says:—"No part of Europe has suffered more severely from the malady which has everywhere attacked the vines of late years than Tuscany, the mother of so many vintages, famous, if not at the London Docks, yet in the memory of all readers of Redi's genial 'Bacco in Toscana.' The following facts show the extent of the misfortune:—Every flask of wine (a quantity equal to about three bottles) pays a duty of three "soldi" on entering any walled city. The "soldo" is the twentieth part of the lira, which is equivalent to 8*d.* English. The quantity thus paying duty is estimated to amount to half the consumption of the entire country. Now, the duty for the year 1854 produced half a million of lira less than usual. Thus the consumption of wine in Tuscany was about twenty million flasks, or sixty million bottles, less than in ordinary years. This diminution in a population of about one million and three quarters, whose only beverage is, for the most part, if not wine, then water, will give some measure of the severe privation entailed on it by the fatal virus. Ignorance always makes a bad patient, and the suffering peasantry, persuaded that the vines are injured by the exhalations of those two new-fangled inventions, railroads and gas, which their fathers did so well without, while they drank their wine in plenty, have very seriously threatened that if another failure should demonstrate the correctness of their opinion, they will take upon themselves to put down the causes of so much misfortune."

*M. de Bonpland, the French Naturalist.*—The German papers contain a paragraph on M. de Bonpland, once the celebrated fellow-traveller of Baron Humboldt, which (resting on the authority of a communication from Herr von Gülich, Prussian Consul-General in Chili) confirms, with fresh details, the news received about a year ago respecting this veteran of science. M. de Bonpland, now eighty-three years of age, has turned quite American and quite planter. He occupies himself on his *haciendas* with the rearing of Paraguayan tea,—bothers the legislative authorities of the country (by whom, however, he seems to be appreciated according to his high merits) with never-ceasing applications on behalf of a more general and more reasonable cultivation of that important article,—and has become a merchant in so far at least as to buy up the mandioca harvests of his neighbours, in order to make use of "this precious root for his special purposes." The enthusiastic desire to see once more his fatherland and the renowned friend of his youth, which was shown so touchingly in M. de Bonpland's first letters, has now considerably cooled down. "I am accustomed," he says, "to live in the shade of trees of a thousand years,—to listen to the song of the birds building their nests upon them,—and to see at my feet the bubbling waters of a clear brook. What, in noisy Paris, would indemnify me for the absence of these benefits? Shall I work there, in some garret, for the publisher who wants to print my works? Shall I have there no other solace than to see, from time to time, the blowing of a rose on my window-sill?"—There is something of the spirit of Bernardin de St.-Pierre breathing in these simple lines. How widely the careers of M. de Bonpland and M. Humboldt have run asunder, since the two friends, now some fifty years ago, climbed side by side the heights of Chimborazo, or looked up, on the midnight plains of Venezuela, to the burning constellations of the South!

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—G. H.—Dr. A.—Lex Nature—F.—M. R.—T. E. T.—The Author of 'Panama in 1855'—A Reader of the *Athenæum*—W. D. T.—Veritas—Dr. M'C.—R. F. G.—A Member of the College of Physicians—received.



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